

Reagan, Dobrynin to discuss summit

WASHINGTON (R) — Talks between President Reagan and outgoing Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin could set in motion preparations for a U.S.-Soviet summit this year, a senior administration official said Monday. The officials told reporters that Mr. Dobrynin, due at the White House on Tuesday to say farewell after 25 years in Washington, had been empowered by the Kremlin to discuss a summit preparatory meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Secretary of State George Shultz. "We can confirm that Shevardnadze did indicate to (U.S. Ambassador Arthur) Hartman in Moscow that Dobrynin had been empowered to discuss a meeting between Shevardnadze and Shultz in the United States," the official said. "It is likely any such meeting would discuss a summit," he said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية اردنية عن المؤسسة العربية للدراسات والبحوث

Volume 11 Number 3141

AMMAN, TUESDAY APRIL 9, 1986, RAJAB 27, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Desert road drivers cautioned

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department sources called on all drivers along the desert road to drive slowly and carefully because of dust storms, strong winds and poor visibility prevailing in that area. Meteorology Department officials also said that the southern region was affected by a khamsin front, which affected the country over the past two days.

Reagan to hold press conference

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan will hold a nationally televised news conference at 0100 GMT Thursday, a White House spokesman announced Monday. The half-hour question-and-answer session with reporters at the White House will be Mr. Reagan's 35th formal news conference as president and his first since Feb. 1986.

Gorbachev visiting industrial republic

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev left Moscow on Monday for the Russian Republic city of Khabarovsk, the official news agency TASS reported. TASS did not disclose the reason for the trip or say how long the Soviet leader would be away from the capital. Khabarovsk is an industrial city and major port and rail centre on the Volga River about 850 kilometres southeast of Moscow.

Bhutto 'did not meet' Karmal

LONDON (R) — A senior aide of Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto on Monday denied reports that she held talks in Moscow last week with Afghan President Babrak Karmal. "The report is absolutely untrue," Miss Bhutto's spokesman Bashir Riaz told Reuters. Miss Bhutto paid a lightning visit to the Soviet capital from March 31 to April 1, coinciding with a trip by Mr. Karmal, and diplomatic sources in Moscow said the two had met to discuss the Afghan war.

Bhutto returns to lead opposition to Zia, page 4

Chun begins European trip

LONDON (AP) — South Korean President Chun Doo-hwan arrived Monday at the start of an 11-day visit to four West European countries to improve political relations and step up trade. It is the first such trip by a Korean leader.

Laurel: Marcos will be allowed home

MANILA (AP) — Vice-President Salvador Laurel said Monday that ousted President Ferdinand E. Marcos would be allowed to return to the Philippines from his exile when the country becomes politically stable. Mr. Laurel told reporters Marcos' exile "is only temporary," but that his return will be determined by President Corason Aquino's government.

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2 killed and 8 injured in Israeli bombing of Sidon refugee camps

2 children among wounded in air raid

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — At least two people were killed and eight others, including a six-year-old boy and a seven-year-old girl, were wounded when Israeli airplanes bombed Palestinian camps in South Lebanon on Monday.

Witnesses quoted by news agencies said at least 10 Israeli planes took part in the attacks on the sprawling camps of Mieh Mieh and 'Ain Al Hilweh on the edge of this southern port city.

The Israeli army claimed in Tel Aviv that the planes scored "accurate hits" on suspected Palestinian commando hide-outs but reports from the scene indicated that civilian targets, including homes and public facilities took the brunt of the Israeli raid, the second in two weeks.

Beirut Radio said two people were killed and 22 wounded. But Sidon police and hospitals reported only eight civilians were wounded.

A Palestinian spokesman said there were no casualties among fighters because they had evacuated most of the military centres

after the previous Israeli air strike 11 days ago.

The Israeli command claimed its pilots reported "accurate hits" on a communications centre and several buildings used by Palestinians to plan attacks on Israel's border.

At least one 10-plane formation carried out seven de-bombing attacks on 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mieh Mieh camps and the nearby village of Sirouhiel, AP reported.

Six planes peeled off to provide top cover. The other four fighter-bombers hit the camps, AP said.

Four Palestinians, a six-year-old boy and a seven-year-old girl were among the wounded rushed to hospital as the planes wheeled overhead, dropping 220 kilograms of high-explosive bombs, hospital sources told Reuters.

The Palestinian spokesman, who identified himself only as 'Abu Ghaleb, said the attacking planes were U.S.-supplied F-16s.

Israelis clamp curfew on Al Bireh and detain 30 after grenade attack

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops clamped a curfew on part of the occupied West Bank town of Al Bireh, north of Jerusalem, on Monday after a hand grenade was thrown at an Israeli vehicle, an army spokesman said.

The grenade did not explode, the spokesman said.

The vehicle's driver fired in the air and summoned troops, who made several arrests and placed the immediate vicinity under curfew, he said.

Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters said about 30 local residents were questioned. They did not know how many were kept in custody.

A firebomb was thrown at a police vehicle in a Gaza Strip refugee camp Sunday night but caused no casualties or damage, Israel radio said.

Last week a Palestinian was killed and three others wounded when Israeli soldiers opened fire on demonstrators marking the 10th anniversary of Land Day. The Palestinian was shot dead in the occupied Gaza Strip.

In Birzeit University near Ramallah in the West Bank two Palestinian students were wounded, one of them seriously, when Israeli soldiers opened fire on Land Day protesters.

On Sunday the Israeli occupation authorities imposed a curfew on the village of Al Samu' near Hebron in the West Bank and also arrested a number of the village's youths.

On Saturday the Israeli occupation forces claimed they seized a stolen pistol from one of the villagers.



Masoud Habuda, a Palestinian soldier who was shot in the leg by Israeli soldiers at Birzeit University last week, flashes the V-for-victory sign from his hospital bed.

Brief gunbattle erupts in Beirut camps

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Sporadic gunfire was heard late Monday from two Palestinian camps in Beirut, one day after a Syrian-sponsored truck took hold between the Palestinian defenders of the camps and the militiamen of Lebanon's Shi'ite Amal movement, news agencies reported.

Amal fighters and Palestinians accused each other of starting the brief firefight at dusk, sparked by what they said was an argument over the removal of a stronghold at the camps.

"We don't think this incident will affect the ceasefire," said one Palestinian source. "We have peace, God willing," he told Reuters.

The 10-day Amal siege of Sabra and Shatila camps was lifted on Sunday after savage tank and house-to-house battles reported to have killed up to 46 people.

For the first time since the fighting erupted, camp residents were able to leave on foot.

"This is the first time I have left the camp and I am going out to buy food," Palestinian housewife Fatme Khoudar, 55, told a Reuters correspondent.

Iraq reports recapturing Iranian-held land in Misan

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said on Monday its forces had liberated an area of land in southern Misan province occupied by Iran for more than two years.

A high command communiqué said the Fourth Army Corps, with air and artillery support, had secured an "important logistical and tactical" area more than four kilometres wide.

It said the battle was in the Al Sharhaya area at the border between Iraq and Iran.

The area has been relatively quiet for the past year after an Iranian offensive over the southern Huweizeh marshes. Since then, there has been little mention of the Fourth Army Corps.

Meanwhile, a founder leader of Iraq's ruling Baath Party, Michel Aflaq, called for "real and active" Arab solidarity with Iraq to help rescue the Arab Nation as a whole.

In a broadcast speech marking

the 39th anniversary of the Arab Baath Socialist Party, he said the main way to achieve an united pan-Arab stand was to foil the "conspiracy of prolonging" the Gulf war.

A French tanker laden with Saudi Arabian crude oil was off Dubai on Monday seeking repairs for a hole in its bow, Gulf-based marine salvage executives reported.

The owner company of the 239,726-ton Brissac, the French Societe Francaise des Petroles, has refused to discuss the cause of the damage, said the executives.

"All we know is that the vessel is off Dubai with a hole in the bow and is heading forward, which means that it has already picked up its Saudi crude oil shipment and was on its way out of the Gulf waters when the mishap occurred," said one Bahrain-based shipping executive who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Ghali heads for talks in Israel

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali flew to Israel for talks on Monday as an opposition party withdrew support for the 1979 treaty with the Jewish state.

Dr. Ghali told reporters he would discuss "bilateral relations and outstanding problems with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres."

Liberal Party leader Mustapha Kamel Mourad told the party's weekly newspaper Al Ahram, published on Monday, pointed out that Israel carried out a series of military attacks against Arab

lands since the signing of the treaty.

Mr. Mourad, who accompanied the late President Anwar Sadat on his visit to Jerusalem in 1977, said Israel's decision not to hold peace talks with a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation was one of the reasons his party withdrew its support.

The rightist Liberal Party failed to win any seats in the 458-seat parliament. Apart from the major right-wing Wafd Party, the centrist Labour Socialist and the leftist Unionist Progressive parties also oppose the 1979 treaty.

King and Queen arrive in Oman

MUSCAT (Agencies) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor arrived in the Omani resort of Salalah on Monday on a several day private visit to the Sultanate of Oman, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Upon arrival at Salalah airport, King Hussein and Queen Noor were received by Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said, Oman's Deputy Prime Minister for Financial and Economic Affairs Qais Zawawi, Chief of the Omani Sultanate

Court Said Ibn Hamad, Minister of State Hilal Hareb and Minister of Petroleum and Minerals Said Al Shamfari and Jordan's ambassador to Oman.

The King and Queen were accorded a grand welcome with full honours.

The King and Queen were accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem.

During their visit to Oman, the King and Queen will stay at the Al

Husn Palace in Salalah, Petra said.

The King and Queen arrived here from Indonesia after concluding state visits to the Sultanate of Brunei and the Republic of Indonesia. During his visit to Brunei, the King held talks with Sultan Muda Hassan Bolkiah and visited the sultanate's armed forces headquarters and military installations. A Jordanian team is training pilots of the Brunei air force.

In Indonesia, the King held talks with President Suharto on

Middle East developments. A joint statement issued at the end of the state visit, Jordan and Indonesia called for total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The statement also emphasised the need for a just and lasting peaceful solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict.

During the King's visit, Jordan and Indonesia also concluded a trade and economic agreement.

Crisis hits Israeli coalition

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's fragile coalition government plunged into crisis on Monday as Prime Minister Shimon Peres demanded the resignation of his finance minister for criticising him publicly.

Peres and the right-wing Likud bloc leader, foreign minister Yitzhak Shamir, failed to resolve the conflict over Peres' demand that Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai, also of Likud, step down. Shamir's aides said.

"The prime minister met Shamir and proposed Modai reach personal conclusions and not continue as finance minister," a Peres aide said.

Shamir and Likud politicians say the coalition government will fall if Peres insists on Modai's departure.

Peres has been under pressure from his Labour Party to break up the coalition government and call elections before October, when he is due to trade jobs with Shamir under the coalition pact.

The crisis erupted when Peres demanded that Modai explain interviews in which he called Peres "a flying prime minister" — a lightweight — who understood nothing about the economy.

Modai told Israel Radio on Monday that he was merely noting that Peres planned trips abroad during discussions on the budget and was not a professional economist.

Peres has said he will fire any minister who criticises the government, which nearly collapsed last November when Peres threatened to sack Industry Minister Ariel Sharon for publicly insulting him. Sharon eventually apologised.

A Peres aide indicated that an apology would not suffice to solve the present crisis. "We can't make a habit of allowing people to cross the line, apologise and continue in a working relationship," he told Reuters.

Israel Radio quoted Peres as telling a closed session of parliament's foreign affairs and security committee he was determined to fire Modai.

Peres' Labour Party, which has had an edge in recent public opinion polls over a sharply divided Likud bloc, is to hold a three-day convention starting Tuesday. One of the key topics is whether to scuttle the coalition agreement and call new elections.

A poll in the pro-Labour Party newspapers Davar and the Jerusalem Post said 54 per cent of Israeli voters surveyed wanted the rotation agreement to be honoured, up from 47 per cent seven months ago. Only 13 per cent favoured new elections and five per cent sought to see a narrow government formed under Peres without new elections.

The survey conducted by the Hanoach Smith Organisation was based on interviews with 1,245 people and carried a three-per cent margin of error.

In a separate Smith poll also conducted in March, Modai registered a 63 per cent approval rating, up from 47 per cent last August. It was the highest rating for a finance minister in the 10-year history of the Smith poll.

Modai has garnered much of the credit for an austerity programme that has reduced annual inflation from about 1,000 to 25 per cent. A statement published by Peres' office said the premier did not seek to topple the government although he wanted to oust Modai. Israel army radio quoted Peres as telling parliament it was "impossible to live in an atmosphere of us and them."

Bush arrives in Bahrain after calling for stability in oil prices

Gulf media launch biting attack on U.S. policy

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — U.S. Vice-President George Bush arrived in Bahrain from Saudi Arabia on Monday after calling for stable oil prices amid a tirade of barbed editorials in the Gulf media criticising American policy in the Middle East.

In a rare gesture of Arab cordiality the emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa, took time off from a busy schedule Monday to greet Mr. Bush on his arrival from Saudi Arabia.

Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Ibn Isa was at hand to greet Mr. Bush. Earlier, Mr. Bush, winding up his goodwill visit to Saudi Arabia, reiterated that oil price stability is in the United States' national interest.

But a two-hour, 35 minute meeting between him and King Fahd late Sunday night produced "nothing specific" on how to create it, a senior administration official said.

Many analysts cite stepped-up Saudi production as a major reason why prices have dropped to under \$11 a barrel from about \$30 five months ago.

The senior official, who spoke with reporters on condition he not be identified, said King Fahd complained to Mr. Bush that the Saudis were getting "in the official's words — 'a bum rap' for the current chaos in world oil markets."

Mr. Bush said the United States

did not blame the Saudis and did not ask for production controls, the official added.

Asked if the king or his advisers had volunteered to do anything to stabilise prices, the official replied: "Nothing specific, no."

Barely seven hours after meeting with the king, Mr. Bush told U.S. businessmen at a breakfast meeting that a strong American oil industry "is absolutely essential to the national security of the United States."

On the other hand, Mr. Bush said that for consumers "there is almost a euphoria about what the drop in oil prices means to the (economic) recovery and to the investment and to the standards of living of people."

The vice president and the king also discussed the deadlocked Middle East peace process and the threats posed to the Arab Gulf countries by the Iran-Iraq war.

Neither the king nor Mr. Bush made any specific, new proposal to deal with these issues, the official said.

The administration official said King Fahd was "disturbed by the present impasse in the peace process and considered the time is slipping away." He said the king emphasised that any solution "has got to take account of the legitimate rights of both the Israeli and the Arab sides."

The Middle East peace process "was the first thing on his (King

Fahd) mind," he added.

During his meeting with the U.S. businessmen in Riyadh Mr. Bush urged that Saudi Arabia put pressure on the PLO to recognise the "right of Israel to exist," as a step toward peace in the region.

However, Mr. Bush acknowledged it was unlikely the Saudis would respond to his behest. "We have a difference with some of our friends — I'd say with the Saudis — on this," Mr. Bush said.

Newspapers along the Gulf region on Monday were editorially critical of the U.S. Mideast policy, with one stressing an "Americans, go home" demand.

In Kuwait, Al Watan dismissed as "unacceptable" the statements by Mr. Bush and Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy about aiding the Gulf Arab states defend themselves against offshoots of the Iran-Iraq war.

The paper said "Americans, go home... take all your warships and weapons away from our region."

"The Gulf countries need American help, but the type of help that we really need is that the Americans cease meddling in the affairs of the region and let the peoples here solve their own problems," the paper said. "The U.S. administration has never entered a country without ruining it."

In its sledge-hammer attack Al

Peace efforts, Gulf war dominate Saud-Clark talks

RIYADH (AP) — The Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iran-Iraq war dominated the two-hour first round of talks on Monday between Canadian External Affairs Minister Joe Clark and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, according to Mr. Clark's delegation members.

The Canadian minister arrived in Saudi Arabia late Sunday on the second leg of a Middle East tour which he started in Jordan, and which will later take him to Egypt and Israel.

Sean Brady, press secretary to the Canadian minister, told reporters at a briefing that "Clark discussed the trip to Amman and said the mood was sombre about prospects for (Arab-Israeli) peace talks."

Prince Saud told Mr. Clark, one-time prime minister of Canada, that the deadlocked Jordanian peace initiative cannot be blamed solely on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and its Chairman Yasser Arafat, the press secretary said.

Prince Saud said Israel should state its interpretation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 before requiring the Palestinians to do the same. "You want clarity on one side, and allow ambiguity on the other," the press secretary

quoted Prince Saud as saying.

Prince Saud commented that Jordan risked a lot to push for peace and were rewarded by U.S. congressional rejection of an arms deal, the press secretary said. He quoted the prince as saying on this score "this is seen by the Palestinians as 'if this is the way the Jordanians are treated by the United States, what about us?'"

Mr. Clark expressed concern that the situation could "stagnate" if too much time was taken in finding fresh impetus to the peace-making process, the press secretary said.

Brady said Prince Saud indicated that Canada could influence U.S. behaviour in the Middle East and urge Washington to adopt "a more even-handed approach" in the Middle East.

Mr. Clark and Prince Saud agreed that the international community must exert efforts to bring warring Iran and Iraq to the negotiating table, the secretary said.

The two ministers also discussed world terrorism, Brady said, and Prince Saud informed Mr. Clark that at least 20 out of the 22 Arab countries "are stricter on terrorism than the West." Prince Saud did not name the two that are not.

(Continued on page 2)

Tripoli woman remains 'prime suspect' in TWA bombing

ATHENS (AP) — Greek police want to question a Lebanese woman they believe planted a bomb aboard a TWA jetliner that killed four Americans, police sources said Monday.

The sources, speaking to AP on condition of anonymity, said May Elias Mansour remains the "prime suspect." A woman who identified herself as Mrs. Mansour said in Tripoli, Lebanon, over the weekend she had nothing to do with the explosion.

"We'd like to question this woman, we'd like to go to Lebanon to do it, but we're not yet sure of the procedures," the sources said.

Mrs. Mansour sat in seat 10-F, where the bomb went off, on a Cairo-Athens-Rome flight last Wednesday. She left the plane in Athens, a few hours before the explosion of the Rome-Athens return leg, and took a flight to Beirut the same day.

In an interview in Beirut on Saturday, Mrs. Mansour denied sitting in 10-F. But TWA spokesman Steve Heckscher told the Associated Press on Monday by telephone from London: "Mrs. Mansour definitely sat in seat 10-F on the Cairo-Athens flight."

Bonn believes disco bombers were foreign

BONN (R) — The West German government said on Monday it was working on the assumption that foreigners were behind a bomb attack on a West Berlin discotheque last Saturday which killed two people and injured 204.

Government spokesman Friedhelm Oet told a news conference that investigators still had no firm idea who was behind the blast but that all evidence gathered so far pointed to outside organisers.

"There are indications of a link to international terrorism," he added.

Interior Ministry spokesman Hans-Gunter Kowalski said the way the bombing had been carried out followed the pattern of earlier attacks on Americans in other countries, including strikes against discotheques in Spain in 1984.

He said there was no evidence whatever that West German left-wing urban guerrillas might have been involved.

An explosion ripped through the La Belle discotheque in West Berlin at 2 a.m. on Saturday when it was packed with nearly 500 guests, many of them American soldiers.

Police in West Berlin initially said they believed either German or Arab guerrillas were behind the blast.

Investigators in the city said that so far seven claims of responsibility had been registered but that none of them was being taken particularly seriously.

They said they had so far questioned 145 people who were in the dance club at the time of the explosion and were following up more than 100 tips passed on by the public.

Thirty-three of those injured in the attack were still receiving hospital treatment but the others have all been released.

Berlin police officials identified a woman killed in the blast as Naemin Haney, a 29-year-old Turk. The other victim was a 21-year-old U.S. soldier, Kenneth Ford.

Scholars, historians gather in Tubingen for conference on Jordan's archaeology

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A distinguished group of over 120 archaeologists, historians and other scholars from around the world were on hand Monday in the West German University of Tubingen to participate in the opening and deliberations of the Third Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan.

The five-day gathering is the third to be held to date in the series of conferences on different aspects of Jordanian history and archaeology, allowing interested scholars to hear reports about the latest archaeological and historical research taking place in Jordan.

It is rather appropriate that this third conference is held in West Germany, given the conference theme of "Trade Communications and Foreign Relations up to the Ottoman Period." As the wide variety of topics to be treated indicates, the ancient history of Jordan is largely a record of the deep and sustained interaction between the peoples and cultures that flourished in the area of modern Jordan, and the assorted civilisations and political powers that existed in the lands adjacent to Jordan or connected to it by the established trade routes of the day.

During the five days of the conference (April 7-11), the participants will hear 31 major papers and another 28 short communications by scholars from Jordan, Europe, North America, and Australia.

This is the third in this series of conferences, launched five years ago after an initiative by His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Hassan, who also acts as patron to the conference in Tubingen. The first conference was held in Oxford, and the second in Amman. The conferences are held every two or three years, alternately in Jordan and abroad.

Not only are these conferences a valuable opportunity for scholars interested in Jordanian history to hear updated reports on the fieldwork being done throughout the country and to exchange notes, but the publication of the papers in a handsome volume is also a means of making the information available to a wider audience throughout the world.

His Highness Prince Ra'ed deposited for Prince Hassan and delivered the opening speech at the conference.

Four exhibitions

The conference at Tubingen also includes four separate exhibitions: "7000 Year of Pottery in Jordan," organised by Professor Denise Homes-Frederick of Belgium and Professor Henk Franken of the Netherlands;

— "The Pride of Jordan," an exhibition of 40 slides of the landscape, life and people of modern Jordan, from the collection of Professor Denis Baly, the noted scholar on biblical geography;

— A photographic display by Dr. William Jobling, of Australia, on his five seasons of survey work in southern Jordan; and,

— A display of maps and books of the Tubingen Atlas of the Near East.

The first day's papers, on Jordan during the prehistoric period, indicate that the inhabitants of this ancient land interacted with communities further afield as early as the Mesolithic and Neolithic ages, between 12,000-5000 B.C. During these closing millennia of the Stone Age, settled and semi-nomadic communities in Jordan had cultural and economic contacts with other prehistoric villages and nomads in the Levant and even throughout the wider Middle East region. Some of these contacts will be discussed in papers presented by Dr. Donald Healy (USA), Dr. Gary Rollefson (USA) and Dr. Zeidan Kafafi (Jordan).

The Tuesday session will cover the Bronze and Iron ages, between 3300-330 B.C., when the land of Jordan saw some of mankind's first proper walled towns and the subsequent emergence of small kingdoms and states. These actively engaged in commercial, military or cultural contacts with other civilisations throughout the Middle East and the wider Mediterranean basin, as the speakers show in their papers.

Working papers

This session will hear papers by Dr. Svend Helms (U.K.) on quasi-literacy in the proto-historical period; by Dr. Robert Houston Smith (USA) on the role of international trade in the life of Pella; by Tim Potts (U.K.) on cultural and artistic influences of Egypt, Syria and Antolia on the craftsmen of Pella; by Dr. Moawiyah Ibrahim (Jordan) on the foreign relations of the settlement at Sahab, south of Amman; by Dr. Axel Knauf (West Germany) on the large-scale copper industry at Feinan, in the Wadi Araba, and its probable export links with other

parts of the Middle East; by Dr. K.H. Bomhardt (West Germany) on the role of maritime trade in the economy of the Jordan region; by Dr. Denise Homes-Frederick (Belgium) on Phoenician influences in Jordan during the Iron Age; by Dr. Mahmoud Abu Taleb (Jordan) on relations between the Assyrians and the Ammonites; by Dr. Manfred Weippert (West Germany) on links between the First Millennium B.C. Iron Age states in Jordan with Mesopotamia; by Dr. Gerrit Van Der Kooij (the Netherlands) on the identity of Transjordanian alphabetic writing during the Iron Age; by Professor Denis Baly on the pitfalls of biblical geography in relation to Jordan; and by Dr. E. Noort (the Netherlands) on Old Testament itineraries in the land of Jordan.

Historical eras

The Wednesday morning session will discuss Jordan during the Hellenistic, Roman, Nabatean and Byzantine periods, when the land seems to have reached the greatest extent of its historical development.

Papers will include presentations by Dr. Fawzi Zayadeh (Jordan) on the stucco decoration and painting at Petra and other Hellenistic sites; by Dr. Andreas Schmidt-Colinet (West Germany) on possible links between Petra and the Nabatean family of sculptors at Medain Saleh, in northern Arabia; by Dr. S. Tom Parker (USA) on the Roman fortified frontier zone in Jordan; by Father Michele Piccirillo (Italy) on the Jerusalem-Esbah road and its sanctuaries in Transjordan; by Dr. Francois Villeneuve (France) on villages and trade of agricultural products in Jordan and southern Syria; and by Dr. Michael MacDonald (U.K.) on conflict and communication in the desert of north Jordan, as evidenced by epigraphic materials from the Greco-Roman period.

Early Islamic period

The session on the Early Islamic period, on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning, will include papers by Dr. Saleh Hamarneh (Jordan) on trade centres in Jordan and their external relations on the eve of Islam; by Alistair Killick (U.K.) on his excavations at Udrh, east of Petra, and the light these have shed on the ancient trade route through southern Jordan; by Dr. Geoffrey King

(U.K.) on the dissolution of the Byzantine frontier and the desert margins under the Umayyads; by Dr. Antonio Almagro Gorbca (Spain) on Byzantine Persian influences on the architecture of the Umayyad palace at the Amman Citadel; by Dr. Ghazi Bishah (Jordan) on Iraqi influence in Mushatta, south-east of Amman, in the light of new inscriptions; and by Dr. A. Duri (Jordan) on the social and economic history of Jordan in the early Islamic period.

The Thursday afternoon session will hear several papers on the Late Islamic period in Jordan, including presentations by Dr. Hans Mayer (West Germany) on the Crusader Lordship of Kerak and Shaubak; by Youssef Ghawamleh (Jordan) on international trade in Jordan during the Mamluke period; by Dr. D.S. Richards (U.K.) on the Mamluke barid (postal service); and by Dr. Seteney Shami (Jordan) and Dr. Heinz Gaube (West Germany) on the past 100 years of history of the village of Umm Qais.

The last day and half of the conference will be taken up by presentations of 28 short communications by scholars now working in the country, covering all the periods from prehistory to the Islamic period.

The conference will end with a workshop on salvage and preservation of archaeological sites in Jordan, before the closing session on Friday afternoon.

Prehistory Workshop

One of the innovations at this year's conference is a two-day workshop on the early prehistory of Jordan, to be held on Saturday and Sunday, after the official conference ends. This gathering has been organised by several Jordanian, West German and British scholars who are particularly interested in the study of the prehistory of Jordan, a field that has seen a considerable amount of new research and fieldwork during the past decade.

Twenty-one papers will be presented at the prehistory workshop, representing the fruits of the research of virtually all the Jordanian and foreign scholars working in this field. As well as reports about individual surveys and excavations, the workshop will also include several reports by specialists on such subjects as palaeobotany, anthropology, lithics and marine molluscs.

Construction work on tower at Second Circle underway

AMMAN (J.T.) — Work on the construction of a 35-metre high tower on the Second Circle of Jabal Amman has started, according to a report in the Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i on Monday.

The report quoted Amman Municipality sources as saying that the tower will be constructed on Wasfi Al Tal square at Second Circle and be also said that the Fourth Circle will be replaced by an intersection with traffic lights, similar to the one in Wadi Saqra.

Technical teams from Amman Municipality have started removing trees, water, telephone and electricity lines from the Second Circle area in preparation for removing soil from the centre of the circle and preparing the site for the construction of the tower which will include a tower dock and a canteen.

Assistant to the mayor of Amman for engineering affairs, Mr. Nizar Khammash, said the Amman Chamber of Industry is

paying for the cost of construction which will amount to some JD 150,000. He added that the tower will be built of stone and concrete and it is expected to take six months to complete. Mr. Khammash added that the Chamber of Industry is in charge of the designs and implementation of the project in cooperation with Amman Municipality.

The tower will be built in the centre of the circle, leaving the edges and embankments of the circle as they are. Traffic in this area will not be affected too much, he said.

Mr. Khammash also said that work on the construction of a square with traffic lights, to replace the Fourth Circle, will start soon. This project, which is designed to ease congestion at the circle, will be completed in two months, he added. Plans for carrying out this project in addition to other projects, have already been drawn up by Amman Municipality.

No charges for unanswered international telephone calls, communications minister says

By a Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Communications Muhieddine Al Hussein has categorically denied that the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) is charging subscribers a full one minute call (one-unit) everytime an international number is dialled but does not get through.

The TCC's modern and fully-automatic computerised dialling system starts counting any international call five seconds after the dialled number answers, Mr. Hussein, who also is chairman of the TCC board of directors told the Jordan Times in a recent interview.

Mr. Hussein's statement came in response to numerous complaints made by telephone subscribers who called the Jordan Times saying that they had to pay rates for attempted international calls which never got through. "The TCC asked me to pay JD 12.50 for 10 attempted international calls which I made to London last December, although I never got through because the dialled number was occupied," said one of the frustrated callers who also presented a December 1985 TCC telephone bill in support of her claim.

Another caller said that he had to pay JD 4.75 for three attempts he made to contact Madrid but which never got through since the dialled number was not answered.

According to Mr. Hussein, there are three types of international calls for which subscribers have to pay for the use of the international line even if they

do not manage to talk to the person called. These are: When a person-to-person call is placed through the international operator but the required person is not there; when the dialled number is answered but the voice at the other end cannot be heard due to technical failures in the international dialling exchanges and in this case if the caller does not hear the voice on the other end and hangs up the phone, the computer still records the attempt and the third case is when an answering machine takes the telephone message.

An earlier report quoting a reliable TCC source said that the corporation justified charging one-unit for attempted international calls saying that "everytime a subscriber dials an out-of-the-country number, the international line is occupied." The director of TCC department for traffic and investment, Mr. Abdul Rahman Hindieh, reiterated Mr. Hussein's explanation and, two other TCC sources said that the corporation was well aware of public complaints for having to pay for attempted calls which never got through. "The TCC has requested the French company, which installed the international dialling system, to dispatch experts to Jordan in order to examine the situation and detect the technical failures," said a senior TCC source who preferred anonymity. Another source explained that in many cases the attempted international calls are recorded as a one-minute unit due to some technical failures in the country's international dialling exchanges.

Relaxed, composed drawings reflect Nimer's environment, daily life

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Every artist, once in a while, needs to take a break from the main direction of his art, to pause, step back and reassess. He needs to do something different, something that he finds easy so that his hand and mind can flow unhindered, become loose and supple again after being freed from the rigours imposed during the process of trying to translate ideas in to images. The work produced in these periods, while retaining essentially true to the style of the artist, often has a very different feel and character.

The black and white prints of Ayyad Al Nimer, now on exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre, are the results of just such a period. The drawings of his family and friends at rest and play, of the gentle domesticated animals he sees around him, while certainly and recognizably the work of Nimer, are a far cry from the raw, vivid colours and emotions of his cleverly combined abstracts and literal pieces. They are not even like the prints made in exactly the same way for his 1981 exhibition at the Spanish Cultural Centre. Those were of women's faces, full of sadness surrounded by strange hieroglyphics that aroused hidden feelings deep in the unconscious.

These prints are just simple drawings of the people who are part of Nimer's everyday life. Their faces are calm, composed, their poses relaxed, they have been caught in moments of rest and peace — moments which reflect the artist's own mood. It is as if Nimer has passed through a crisis.

What these prints also show is Nimer's tremendous ability to

draw. Made by drawing on a metal plate with a sharp point, there is no room for mistakes, the line that is first made is the one that stays, and if you study the 61 drawings on display you will rarely find a line that wavers or is out of perspective. In one clean confident stroke Nimer catches the soft curve of the inner arm, the contour of a bare foot or the complexities of folded hands. Simple shading, made up of short lines, convey the impression of the folds and fall of the clothes, while heavy black ink, at times light and textured, at other times dense and completely opaque, fills the space behind the figures. It is this shading, abstract in nature that carries more forcefully Nimer's own style and direction.

To emphasise this feeling, hidden among the swirling black pas-

sages are Nimer's trademarks — his symbols. But even these are rarely applied and are of a much simpler nature than the ones found in his earlier paintings of women. Then they were complex signs of fertility and sadness. Now they are just circles, squares and spirals denoting once again a certain completeness, an inner peace.

Although perhaps slightly large and therefore a little repetitive — a smaller more intimate venue might have been more suitable for this collection — this exhibition, as is always the case with Nimer, is one of quality, coherence, conviction and seriousness. Now that he has displayed this phase of his work, Nimer will return to his old ideas which he hopes to advance and develop. We look forward to his next exhibition with anticipation.



Portraits of friends, with simple shading, short lines

Royal Court receives cables of good wishes as Jordan marks Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan along with Arab and Islamic nations Monday celebrated the feast of Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj, the anniversary marking the Prophet Mohammad's nocturnal journey to Jerusalem and his ascension to heaven.

Religious ceremonies were held in mosques throughout the Kingdom to mark the occasion and sermons focused attention on the meaning of the religious feast and its importance in Islam and for the Muslim people.

On the occasion, the Royal Court received cables of good wishes addressed to His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent. Cables came from senior officials, representatives of public organisations, presidents of trade unions and charitable societies, heads of municipal and rural councils and other sectors. The cables wished the King success in leading the country towards further progress and prosperity.

Among those sending cables was Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mheilan, the heads of public intelligence, the public security and the civil defence departments.

Sheikh Mheilan was among Muslim dignitaries who addressed a congregation at Al Hus-

seini Mosque in Amman on Sunday where a ceremony was held on the eve of the feast. Along with other speakers, Sheikh Mheilan spoke of the need for Arabs and Muslims to intensify their efforts and rally their forces to liberate the holy land and Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayat spoke to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, underlining the importance and the meaning of Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj in Islam. He said that Jerusalem and Al

Aqsa Mosque remain the symbol for Palestine and for Muslims and he went on to say that all Israeli measures designed to Judaize the city and all the conspiracies to demolish the mosque will end in total failure.

Sheikh Khayat reminded Muslims of the need to formulate a comprehensive plan to regain Al Aqsa and Palestine and to achieve a just and honourable peace, guaranteeing the rights of the Palestinian people. He said that Muslims should carry out a holy war (Islamic Jihad) to regain their holy places and their rights.

All government departments and public institutions were closed on the occasion and night clubs, liquor stores and bars were closed from Sunday evening until this morning.



Religious ceremonies were held in mosques throughout the Kingdom to celebrate the holy occasion of Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj

Third conference on pharmacy starts today

AMMAN (Petra) — The third Jordanian pharmaceutical conference will be held in Amman today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and under the slogan of "Pharmacists and medicine at the service of the community." The three-day conference is organised by the Jordanian Pharmacists' Association (JPA).

The association's president Ghaleb Al Sabbarini said that the association has been holding periodic conference and lectures with the aim of developing the pharmacy profession in Jordan. He also praised the role of Jordanian pharmacists in holding local conferences and in participating in Arab symposiums on pharmacy. The conferences, he added, are designed to gather the largest possible number of pharmacists to promote and improve the scientific profession.

They also aim at promoting awareness among those outside the pharmaceutical profession regarding the importance of the pharmacist's role in the society, improving the professional and scientific standard of pharmacists,

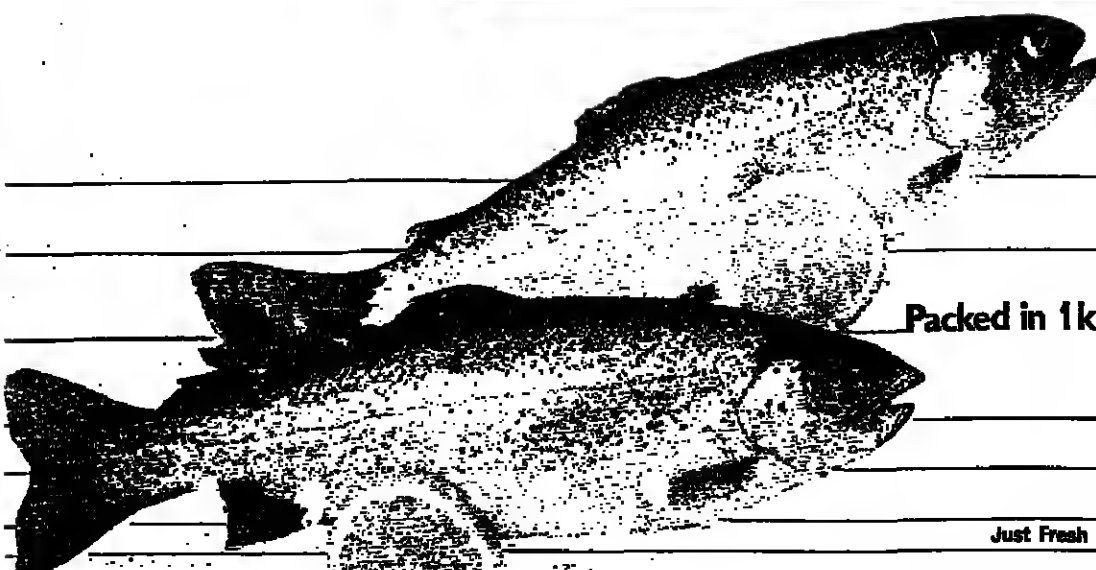
encouraging investigation and scientific research among pharmacists as well as preparing for Arab and international conferences. Mr. Sabbarini pointed out.

He added that qualified cadres from Arab countries have been invited to take part in discussing the problems of the pharmacy sector in Jordan with a view to finding successful solutions to these problems.

Speaking about the third pharmaceutical conference, Mr. Sabbarini said that it will discuss working papers dealing with the role of the pharmacist in society and in medical services, the pharmaceutical services offered by the Health Ministry, the pricing and registration of medicines, selling medicines without prescription and the licensing of public pharmacies. The third day of the conference will be allocated for scientific lectures on various topics related to pharmacy.

Pharmacists from the pharmaceutical association in Jordan and Arab countries as well as the secretary general of the Arab Pharmacists' Federation will be taking part in this conference.

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Jordan Times

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Telegram: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan.
 The Jordan Times is published daily except on Sundays and public holidays.
 Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Waiting for Isaiah

THE article about the new Israeli book *Fateful Decisions* that we are reprinting on this page today tells an important story in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict. This story is not about the message that the writer of the book, an Israeli "hawk," tried to convey to his countrymen. It is about how his message, which is basically a plea for moderation in policy by Israel towards its Arab neighbours, is either expected to go unheeded or simply criticised as wishful thinking and utopianism by mainstream Zionist thinking.

Professor Yehoshafat Harkabi, the author, says some rudimentary facts in his book: facts like Israel will inevitably face a national disaster if it does not fundamentally change its political attitudes in order to reach a settlement with the Arabs. Yet, even this rudimentary fact, which the Arabs have come to learn by heart, whether by studying elementary history books or through thinking in general terms about the Palestinian problem, is rejected by the Israeli body politic and public opinion. "Israel would have to be an entirely different creature if it conformed to what the author wanted," says a reviewer of the book in *Ha'aretz* newspaper, invoking a mainstream Israeli sentiment, according to the article.

What kind of creature would Israel have to be in order to accommodate Palestinian rights and accept to deal with the PLO, we do not know; but the reviewer does give us a hint. "Harkabi writes with the freedom of the prophet, not of the statesman..." In other words, the book's potential value to even an enlightened Israeli prime minister (like Shimon Peres, we presume) is extremely limited. What this in effect means is that Peres or any other "enlightened" Israeli prime minister cannot advocate a moderate policy towards the Arabs and still hope to be leader of the Jews.

This is the issue that the majority of us Arabs, and for that matter many other world nations as well, have tended to see as presenting the real obstacle to establishing peace with the Israelis. If no Israeli leader can stand up to say that the Arabs have rights as well in Palestine, and that "we Israelis" have to talk to the PLO because it does represent the Palestinians, then that fact alone would force us to believe that the Israelis cannot be good partners for peace while this attitude lasts.

We did in fact hear some positive noises from Shimon Peres and his Labour Party before and after they assumed office. But as far as legitimate Palestinian rights were concerned, these positive noises never touched the crux of the matter. Peres talked about the "purity" of the Jewish state and the need to preserve it whenever he spoke on a peace platform. Never did he come near the fundamental change required in Israeli policy to accommodate the Palestinian rights to self-determination and to choose their own national representatives.

It seems that Harkabi did not have in mind the appearance of an Isaiah before Israel pulled itself together and accepted the national rights of the Palestinians. But if it takes another prophet to rescue Israel from the inevitable, self-made disaster, the Israelis had better start thinking about it.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: A reminder for solidarity

MUSLIM people Monday celebrated Al Isra' Wal Mi'raj and remembered Palestine and the holy shrines in Jerusalem. The anniversary comes at a time when the Zionists continue their drive to perpetuate their hold on our land and our holy places, but it is an occasion to remind us of our duty towards these places and towards the Arab people, our brothers under Israeli occupation. The anniversary is a reminder for all Arabs and Muslims to seek solidarity and to end the divisions and disputes that have distracted their attention from the central issue. It is time for the Arabs and Muslims to wake up and march along a course leading to liberation and the re-institution of Arab identity in the holy land. Nothing should stand in our way of solidarity and continued efforts and steadfastness, and everything should be done for the sake of regaining our rights and our homeland.

Al Dustour: Significance of Jerusalem

THE Muslim people celebrate Al Isra' Wal Mi'raj every year, and everytime the Muslims and the Arabs renew the pledge to fight in defence of their rights and their land. The feast is a reminder that Jerusalem attracts all Muslims to it as it is a holy land for them as much as Mecca. Jerusalem, which the Arabs and Muslims must fight for, is an essential part of their religion and Al Aqsa Mosque is at the heart of Islam. Jerusalem, the land of Al Isra' Wal Mi'raj marked the beginning of Arab and Islamic movement, and since the very beginning it has attracted millions of people as a cradle for heavenly religions. Throughout history, Muslims had fought hard in defence of the holy city and struggled hard to protect the sacred shrines. Today, Arabs and Muslims witness conspiracies and plots being hatched against their holy places and acts of aggression and violation of the sanctity of Al Aqsa Mosque and other religious places. The feast is a reminder for the Arabs and Muslims to shoulder their responsibility towards these holy places and mobilise their forces to liberate them from occupation.

Sawt Al Shaab: An occasion for reflection

AL Isra' Wal Mi'raj is a religious occasion and a feast celebrated by Muslims around the world. This anniversary bears meanings and reminds of lessons that the Muslims should learn from the past struggles of their ancestors and their sacrifice and diligence for regaining their right and their land. The occasion is a reminder that Mecca and Jerusalem are linked together and that Jerusalem is as holy and Arab as Mecca. It is an occasion to renew our determination and pledge to fight on and carry on the struggle for the sake of liberating our lands and our people. It is an occasion to unify our ranks and mobilise our efforts and resources for the sake of liberating our holy places and lands in Palestine and fend off the danger threatening our future generations. Despite the differences among the Arab and Muslim states and despite the disputes and the past and present conflicts that divide the Islamic nation, hope is still there and filling the hearts of the masses. We hope that this nation will rise again and pursue its endeavours to attain its objectives and goals.

Israeli 'hawk' warns Zionists of doomsday

By Ian Black

The Guardian

A CONTROVERSIAL new book by Israel's foremost expert on the Arab-Zionist conflict has sketched a nightmare picture of inevitable national disaster if the Jewish state does not fundamentally change its political attitudes and policies towards its enemies.

The book, *Fateful Decisions*, by Professor Yehoshafat Harkabi, argues that the future of Israel depends on reaching a peace settlement with its Arab neighbours; that such a settlement is a vital need, not "an act of philanthropy"; and that attempts to exclude the PLO from negotiations are doomed to failure.

"I accept the democratic right of the Jews in Israel to commit national suicide," Professor Har-

kabi says in his introduction, "and if that happens I will be with them. But I will do all that I can to warn them against it."

"Nations do sometimes take the wrong path and most become aware of their errors, not because they become convinced that their policies are wrong, but because history deals them a blow, like defeat in war. This is what happened to the Germans, the Italians and the Japanese. The particular severity of our problem is that we cannot afford to suffer such a blow to learn our lesson and change our ways."

Even his critics agree that Professor Harkabi writes with authority. A former army general and head of military intelligence, he achieved international fame in the 1960s with his deeply pessimistic

analyses of Arab attitudes to Israel, and especially with his translation and exegesis of the then little-known Palestine National Covenant, the PLO "charter."

In his present book, Professor Harkabi writes, he hopes to render his previous work and his reputation as a "hawk" redundant by showing that in significant parts of the Arab world — including the PLO — an operative distinction now exists between what he calls a "grand design" to destroy Israel and an actual policy of accepting its existence as a fact of life.

The PLO, he argues, must be judged by the degree of support for it among the Palestinians and not by the methods it employs. "Recognising the PLO is not a prize for good behaviour, but simply a function of the role that it plays."

Israel, Professor Harkabi says, should display moderation in its relations with the Arabs even if that moderation is not reciprocated by the other side.

He spends much of the book analysing and condemning the development in recent years of militant religious Zionist demands formally to annex the occupied West Bank and Gaza, despite the fact that this will mean that over two million Palestinians (including the minority inside the pre-1967 border) with a far higher birthrate than that of the Jewish population, will then be living under Israeli rule.

He sees the near-collapse of the country's economy under the pre-

vious Likud government and the disastrous invasion of Lebanon in 1982 as signs of the depths to which the country has sunk.

Reviewers here have praised the honesty and intellectual rigour of *Fateful Decisions*, but expressed fears that its message and recommendations will simply go unheeded.

Others have criticised the author for wishful thinking and Utopianism. "One can say of Harkabi's book what the Labour Party says about the PLO," wrote Gideon Samet in *Ha'aretz* newspaper. "Just as the PLO would be something else if it gave up violence, so Israel would be an entirely different creature if it conformed to what the author wanted."

"Harkabi writes with the freedom of the prophet, not of the statesman, to present an idealised picture. This book is a cry of doom, a bitter tally of crimes and punishments. But the author is Isaiah, not Machiavelli, and this work's potential value to a ruling 'prince', even an enlightened one, is extremely limited."

Professor Harkabi himself rejects much of this criticism. "It's not a political book," he argues. "And it's not an obituary of the state of Israel. I think it's an optimistic book because it says there is a way out if we reach the right conclusions. Attitudes are the soft underbelly of policies. If we change attitudes, policies can change too."

Bhutto returns to lead opposition against Zia

By Tom Heneghan

Reuters

ISLAMABAD — Benazir Bhutto returns from exile this week to take up the reins of Pakistan's fractured opposition and challenge the fledgling system of limited democracy General Mohammad Zia Ul Haq has created.

Bhutto, daughter and political heir of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, is expected to draw huge crowds when she arrives in Lahore from London on Thursday.

She will then start off on a dual mission — to unite her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and to challenge Gen. Zia, who toppled her father in 1977 and has stayed on as president and army chief after lifting martial law last December.

The tall and slender 32-year-old, who has spent most of the past six years either in jail, under house arrest or in European exile, has become an almost mythical figure to many opposition activists both in and out of the PPP.

At opposition rallies, supporters chant: "Benazir, Benazir, Quam Ki Taqdir" (Benazir, Benazir, destiny of the nation).

Now she will have to translate the Bhutto family charisma and the sharp wit of her statements from abroad into a strategy for everyday politics.

She will have to do it in a way that avoids her being re-arrested, as she was last August when she returned for her brother's funeral, or the army reimposing martial law.

Hopes and fears are running high in the PPP, the centre-left party she inherited from her father, and supporters make excited parallels to the Aquinos in the Philippines.

Many speak of Benazir as Pakistan's Corazon Aquino, riding a wave of "people's power" to drive out Zia and become president of a truly popular government.

Some fear she could meet the same fate as Benigno Aquino, shot dead on his return from exile in August 1983.

Others simply evoke the memory of her father, "Bhutto Shaheed" (Bhutto the martyr), who was overthrown by the army and then hanged in 1979 on disputed murder conspiracy charges.

But most commentators here are sketching out a different scenario, one in which Bhutto finds she can attract enormous crowds but cannot translate that into a quick rise to the top.

"The armed forces have not

been disbanded nor have the social forces that dread a left-of-centre takeover shed their historical memories," the Karachi monthly *Herald* wrote.

Noting Zia's continued support from the United States, which has just agreed to a \$4 billion arms-and-aid package over the next six years, it added:

"A Cory Aquino is not going to be staged in Pakistan simply because we haven't quite reached the stage where foreign powers can say that now is the autumn of the patriarch."

"Given half a chance, the huddled masses of this country will vote the PPP into power. But how are they going to get that opportunity?"

Zia, who promised polls within 90 days of overthrowing Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, finally held general elections in February 1985 but blocked political parties from participating.

Through martial law orders later approved by the loyal assembly, he boosted the powers of the president before formally ending army rule.

Bhutto rejects the new system as illegal and demands fresh elections or mid-term polls under the 1973 constitution her father drew up and Zia substantially amended.

But Mohammad Khan Junejo, Zia's prime minister, refuses to call elections before the 1990 deadline and is often out on the stump trying to drum up support for his government.

Bhutto has also been working hard, visiting the U.S., Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union in recent weeks to build up an image of a statesman.

The PPP could be both a help and a hindrance to Bhutto's assault on the new political system. It is the largest party in the country, an amalgam of rich landowners, leftwingers, labour leaders and opportunists.

Its size ensures she will draw large crowds on her speaking tours but its split personality has led to open struggles for power between the feudal landowners left over from her father's day and the young socialists she has promoted in recent years.

PPP members fear that she will quickly become bogged down in party infighting and lose the almost unquestioned authority she now has.

"Benazir's exile has allowed her to play both sides at the same time," one Lahore PPP leader said. "But once she is here, she will have to come down on one side or the other."

Despite violence, Gandhi pursues conciliatory path

By Chaitanya Kalbag

Reuters

NEW DELHI — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has kept his nerve under a battering from Sikh extremists in Punjab state, preferring to give peace a chance rather than take harsh measures to put down the violence.

At least 115 people have been killed in the north Indian state over the past five weeks — the worst bloodshed since an extremist campaign for a separate Sikh state started in 1982.

But Gandhi has resisted a clamour for hard action by members of his Congress (I) Party, instead pledging to cooperate with the state's beleaguered moderate Sikh government.

The Indian leader also moved to counter critics who said he was jettisoning a peace accord signed last year with moderate Sikhs by setting up a new commission that favours Punjab in a territorial row with neighbouring Haryana state.

In another conciliatory sign, Gandhi has summoned political leaders and leading citizens to a meeting of the newly-appointed National Integration Council to discuss the growing rift between Punjab's Sikhs and the Hindu minority.

The moves came after Punjab Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala, who had come under in-

creasing criticism for failing to tackle the spiralling violence, vowed to give security forces a free hand in cracking down on the extremists.

With Barnala's consent, Gandhi also named two experienced trouble-shooters as Punjab's new governor and police chief.

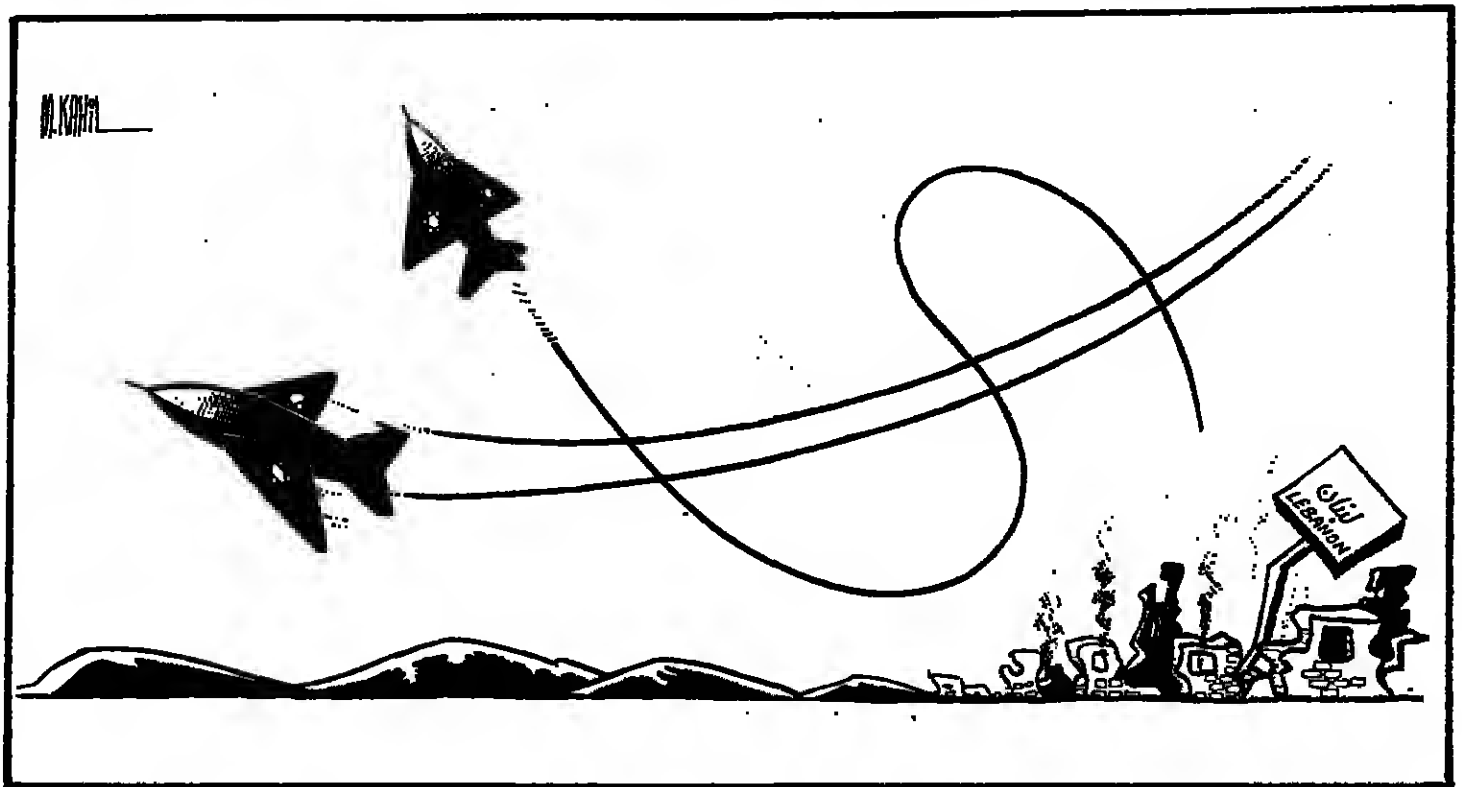
Gandhi's tactics were in sharp contrast with his mother and predecessor Indira Gandhi, who sent troops into the Sikhs' holiest shrine, Amritsar's Golden Temple, in 1984 to root out extremists sheltering there.

A close aide of Gandhi who did not want to be named told Reuters the prime minister recognised the situation in the Sikh-dominated state bordering Pakistan was "very sensitive."

"He could have easily sacked Barnala and clamped direct central rule on Punjab," the aide said. "But he abhors confrontation and would rather prop up Barnala, who symbolises moderate Sikh opinion against the extremists."

In other signs of cooperation, Internal Security Minister Arun Nehru told parliament last week the central government was sharing vital information on the extremists with Barnala.

He said New Delhi would also try to satisfy a "substantial shopping list" of weapons and communications equipment sought by Punjab authorities.



Wave of union military threatens Nordic countries

By Richard Wallis

Reuters

STOCKHOLM — An indefinite strike by state employees in Finland has focused attention on the new militancy of Nordic trade unions that is also threatening major conflicts in neighbouring Sweden and Norway this month.

Unless a last-minute agreement can be reached, next week could produce Sweden's worst industrial dispute since 1980, shut down Norway's oil production and bring 100,000 Norwegian industrial workers out on strike.

Industrial relations in this part of the world have for years enjoyed a reputation as models of stability. Finland had until this year not known any largescale strike since 1971.

Last month, however, some 240,000 blue collar workers staged a three-day walkout in the country's worst industrial dispute since a 19-day general strike 30 years ago.

That had hardly been settled when 15,000 white-collar workers in public service called an indefinite strike from April 2. It has already crippled Finland's rail and air traffic and is due to spread to other key sectors on April 16.

The spring is when Nordic unions and employers hammer out pay deals and it has always been a season for brinkmanship — but usually both sides have at the last minute backed off from threatened strikes and lockouts.

The unrest reflects the economic and social factors eroding the Nordic tradition of striving for consensus.

In both Sweden and Finland, service industry unions are showing a new self-assertiveness. In pay deals, they no longer seem prepared to take second place to blue collar workers.

Swedish white collar unions showed their muscle last year in the worst public sector pay dispute in the country's history when an 18-day stoppage closed Sweden's ports and airports.

Swedish unions have long complained that pay rises were being eroded by one of Europe's highest inflation rates and that their members had been their purchasing power slide.

Ever since the Stockholm boycott began to boom in 1983 and the leading Swedish companies reported record earnings, the unions have been demanding to cash in on those profits.

It is against this background that falling world oil prices dramatically changed the outlook for Nordic economies.

In Sweden, an overjoyed government forecast the lowest inflation in 20 years — down to two per cent by the end of 1986 against 5.7 per cent last year — as all the indicators pointed to a bright year for the Swedish economy.

But in Norway, the fall in oil prices spells disaster and threatens to halve state revenues.

In spite of the huge difference in the expected impact of falling oil prices on their economies, both the Swedish and Norwegian governments were united in saying the situation called for even more moderate pay deals this year.

While the Norwegian government argued that the oil market collapse left the economy no room for manoeuvre, Swedish Labour Minister Anna-Greta Leijon warned that high wage settlements could jeopardise a "once-in-a-lifetime windfall."

Driving the point home in Oslo, Swedish Finance Minister Kjell-Olof Feldt said Nordic countries risked picking themselves out of their export markets unless pay deals were kept down.

The first disruption Norway faces comes from some 670 catering workers on offshore installations who threaten to strike on Sunday to press for a 28 per cent pay increase.

Employers have threatened to retaliate by locking out 4,000 workers on dozens of offshore production and exploration platforms, a move that would halt all oil and gas output.

Major engineering unions met employers last Tuesday over their 1986 pay deal, but all parties said wide differences remained and that a strike, initially affecting 50,000 workers, could begin on Monday if talks broke down.

Ignoring calls from the government and other unions to pare down its demands, Sweden's white

collar trade union (PTK) has given notice of a private-sector strike in transport and industry from April 8 to press for a seven per cent pay rise.

The employers' federation (SAF) says it will lock out half a million white collar workers on April 9 if the PTK goes ahead. The PTK strike will affect 18,000 members.

The Swedish employers' main hope of breaking the PTK is the 1.8-million strong blue collar workers' confederation LO. SAF and the LO are reported to be close to a moderate two-year wage settlement. This could undermine PTK's claims.

Since 1983 there have been no centrally-negotiated agreements between SAF and LO — once the basis of the much-vaunted Swedish model of industrial relations.

But LO has been anxious to regain that power and member unions have given it until Monday to work out a deal with SAF.

The government says that keeping Swedish exports competitive is at stake in this year's wage negotiations. Failure to do so forced Sweden to devalue by 10 per cent in 1981 and by 16 per cent in 1982.

In neither Sweden, Norway nor Finland is there a tradition of government intervention in strikes. In 1985, Denmark ended its worst labour dispute in 12 years through a government-imposed two-year deal giving a two per cent rise.

Papua New Guinea faces big law and order problem

By Francis Daniel

Reuters

PORT MORESBY — Nelson, Wale is 21 years old and already a veteran of many tribal battles in the rugged, mountainous highlands of Papua New Guinea.

He proudly displays a deep scar on his forehead, one of the wounds suffered during battles with bows, arrows, spears and long knives.

Dark and muscular with piercing eyes, thick lips and a mop of black curly hair, Wale told Reuters he fled his native hill village for temporary shelter here after a violent tribal encounter at the end of last year.

At least five people died and several hectares of food crops lay in waste after the fighting which erupted because members of a neighbouring tribe planted coffee on Wale's family plot.

Wale just cannot understand why outsiders make a fuss over these clashes which are a part of the lifestyle in the highlands where one third of this Pacific island nation's 3.3 million people live.

The undulating highland valleys, lying between towering cloud-shrouded mountains, boast Papua New Guinea's most fertile soil and a mild, spring-like climate.

"We fight. We settle. It is our way and we are happy. It always works," Wale told Reuters.

Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Pias Wingti views the continuing tribal strife with no great alarm either.

"It is a dying tradition. You just can't go in and stop traditions. My interest is in the next generation."

In fact large-scale tribal fighting in the highlands almost disappeared after the former Australian administration brought warring tribes under government control in the 1930s when the outside world discovered the remote area through to the 1950s.

Many tribes resisted and attacked government patrols but bows, arrows and spears were no match for rifles. Others spontaneously gave up warfare when Australian patrol officers first entered their lands.

But fighting broke out again in the 1970s in areas where population growth, brought about by the end of warfare and introduction of modern medicine, caused a spate of land disputes between neighbouring tribes.

Even before Australia gave Papua New Guinea independence in 1975, fighting involving hundreds of warriors had become a serious problem in the more thickly populated parts of the highlands.

By then the rifle-fire used to suppress fighting in the early days of highland exploration was no longer politically acceptable.

It is even less so far the new nation's own government. Police now stay out of the battles and try to arrest fight leaders afterwards.

Officials said, however, the Mount Hagen fighting was serious

because it caused large-scale damage to a town. Usually tribal wars are confined to villages with destruction limited to homes, food gardens and livestock, they said.

Law and order also get a bashing in urban areas where gangs known as "rascals" — mainly unemployed villagers who have flocked into urban areas — have been committing crimes including murder, rape and robbery.

The situation became so serious that the previous government declared a state of emergency and imposed an overnight curfew in the capital.

Wingti, who sees the rascals as an extension of social discontent, has lifted the curfew and says his plans to increase economic growth and create new jobs will soon minimise the problem.

"It is not worth talking about the rascals. They don't comprise even one per cent of the population, but they take up so much publicity," Wingti said.

"If you go to the countryside nobody talks about rascals. Only people in Port Moresby talk about it," he added.

"We cannot spend out limited resources in creating a big security network and turn the country into a police state."

Not all his ministerial colleagues agree with him.

Minister For Lands Paul Torato recently called for swift village justice, including ritual death for murder, cutting of a finger for theft and a nose for adultery.

Tools excavated at Tell Abu Hamid site support evidence of a farming settlement

The following article is part two of a two part series on the first season of excavation at Tel Abu Hamid site in the Jordan Valley. Part one appeared in Monday's Jordan Times.

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

The flint tools excavated at Tell Abu Hamid include chisels, picks, borers, sickle blades and scrapers. Some of the crescent-shaped or round, palm-sized scrapers with a hole drilled near their centre are also characteristic of the period around 4000 B.C., though what function the hole serve remains unknown. It may have held some sort of handle, or perhaps allowed the perforated discs, as they are sometimes called, to be hung on a string or leather band.

The flint tool assemblage, Drs. Dollfus and Kafafi said in an interview here recently, suggests an economy based on farming, rather than hunting and gathering. There

is little evidence for hunting, such as arrowheads or projectile points. Rather, the many basalt and limestone vessels, such as conical bowls, mortars, pestles, and grinding stones, point to activities associated with grain cultivation and preparation. The flint remains identified on the site to date include barley, wheat and some legumes, notably peas.

Animal remains include goat, sheep, pig and some cattle and fox. An in-field analysis of the bone remains by Dr. Jean Desse indicates that sheep and goat were slaughtered at an old age, but pigs were killed when still young.

This suggests the inhabitants of the settlement certainly practised herding, though more excavations are required to determine if they

lived at the site all year round, or migrated seasonally with their animal herds. One of the aims of the project is to determine the nature and function of the settlement at Tell Abu Hamid, and its relationship, if any, with contemporary sites in the East Jordan Valley at Tell Fendi, Tell Arbreen, Tell Abu Habis, Tell Qos, Tellilat Ghassul, Tell North Shouneh and Ghuruba.

The last three sites have been excavated, and provide a good basis for comparative studies with the materials excavated at Tell Abu Hamid. Excavated or surveyed sites from the same period west of the Jordan River include Neve Ur, Fara, North and Beer es-Sabe' (Ber sheeba).

No burials have been found yet. Whatever belief or cultic system the villagers practised may be related to the few clay and stone figurines found this year. These include schematic animal figures and a single "violin" or schematic human, figurine in limestone, measuring some 10 centimetres high.

Other artifacts included:

— fenestrated and pedestaled clay vessels about 25-30-centimetres high, of unknown purpose but also typical of the period;

— eight "mace heads" about 5-7 centimetres high with holes drilled through both ends, made of marble, black stone or hematite, and found together in a cache;

— beads made of dentalium, unio and other shells;

— "pendants" made of limestone and chipped pottery;

— bone awls and spatulas, made of goat and sheep bones; and

— a single metal piece, a eight-centimetre-long copper pin.

The Jordanian-French joint expedition plans to continue excavations in 1987, with the aim of determining more precisely if the settlement was inhabited year-round, and also how long the settlement existed. Dr. Dollfus and Kafafi have already determined that the settlement was relatively short-lived, perhaps for between 100 and 200 years, though why it suddenly ceased to exist remains

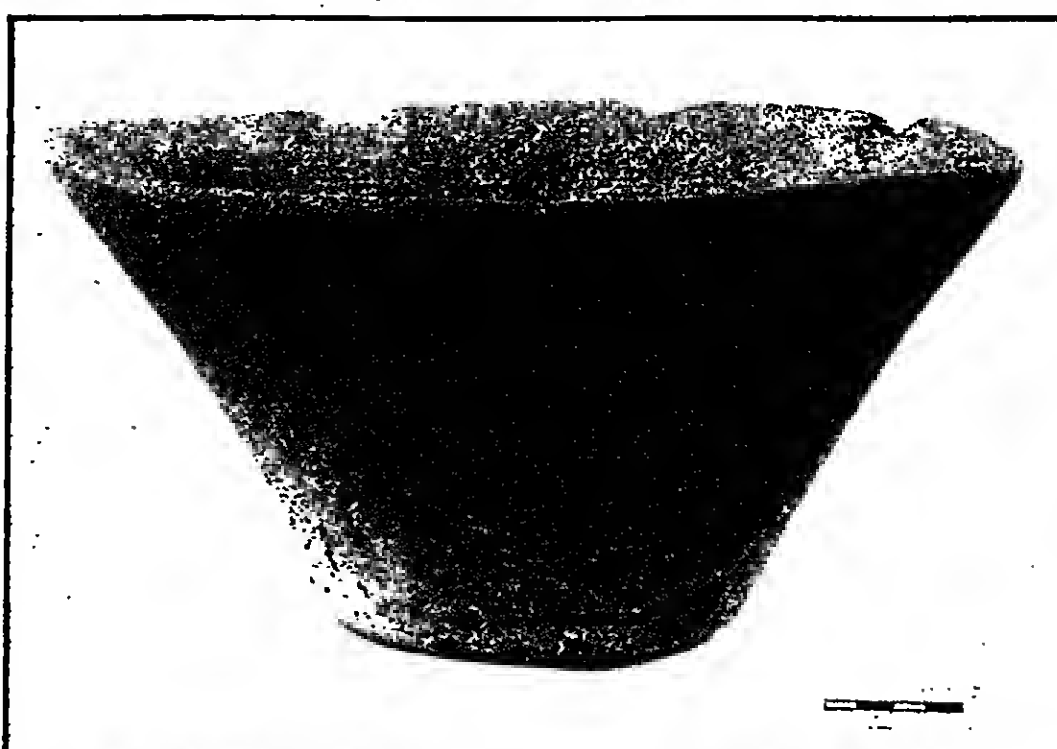
one of the site's unresolved riddles.

Another aim of the project is to train Jordanian and French students of archaeology in excavation and analysis techniques. During this year's first season, students from Yarmouk University and several French universities were trained in the field by French and Jordanian archaeologists and specialists from other countries, including the United States and the Netherlands.

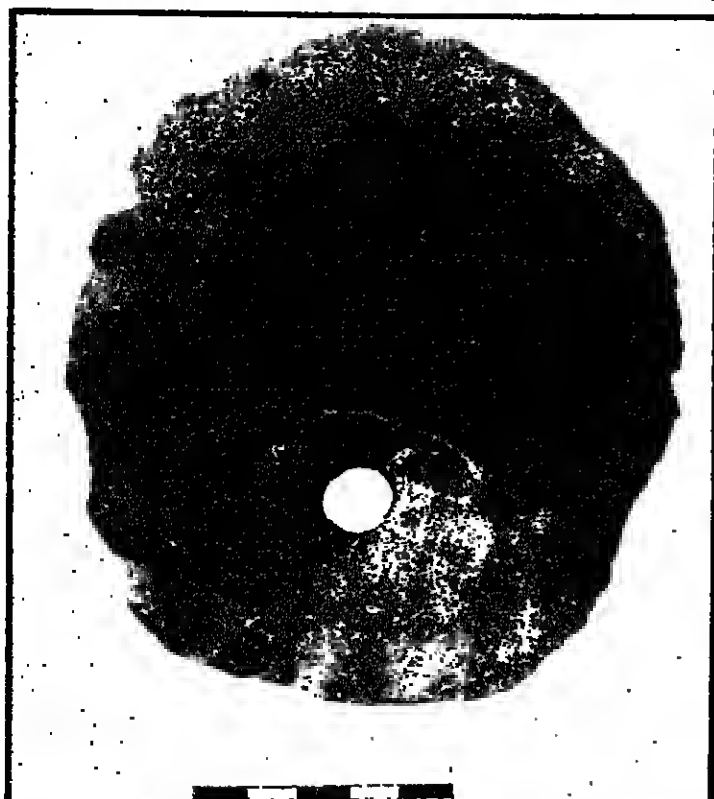
The project is being conducted by Yarmouk University and the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), in cooperation with the Jordanian Department of Antiquities and the French Archaeological Institute in the Near East (IFANP). Funding has been provided by Yarmouk University, the CNRS, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Geographic Society, the Department of Antiquities and IFANP.



A typical stone "macehead" from Tel Abu Hamid (Photo by Carl Andrews, Yarmouk University)



A typical late 5th Millennium basalt bowl excavated at Tell Abu Hamid (Photo by Carl Andrews, Yarmouk University)



One of the flint perforated discs, or scrapers, from Tell Abu Hamid (Photo by Carl Andrews, Yarmouk University)

Fulbright satisfied with exchange programme after 40 years

By Stephen La Rocque

WASHINGTON — Former United States Senator J. William Fulbright says the exchange programme that bears his name has done much good in the 40 years since it was established but should be expanded.

"I am most proud of the programme," he said in a recent telephone interview to mark the programme's 40th anniversary. "It started very well, and I hope it continues to grow."

It was in 1943 that Fulbright, then a Democratic congressman, introduced the "Fulbright Resolution." It won approval in the House, which favoured the creation of an international organisation to maintain world peace. As a senator three years later, he introduced the bill that set up the educational exchange programme.

Fulbright, who will turn 81 April 9, played a major role in American foreign policy for 16 years as the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He said the exchange programme

was designed "to preserve peace and prevent conflict."

"I have heard of people who say look at the trouble we have right now, but this is a long-term programme," said Fulbright, now practicing law in Washington. "It isn't designed to affect our relations in the short term."

"There is a remarkable performance in many countries by the graduates, the former participants. Many of these former participants are now reaching positions of considerable influence in their respective countries."

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was one he cited.

The author of books such as "Old Myths and New Realities" and "The Arrogance of Power," which severely criticised U.S. foreign policy in the 1960s, Fulbright said he was always optimistic about the programme.

"I hoped it would grow," he said, "and that the programme would eventually have some effect upon our attitude toward foreign countries with different cultures, and that it would help us to be able

to adjust our differences to avoid future conflicts."

"The encouraging thing about it is that other countries support the programme now. I believe 28 or 29 other countries contribute under the cost-sharing principle. It is a mutual programme and they have recognised that it is in our mutual interest to avoid conflicts in the future if we possibly can. The best way to do that is to have leaders who have an understanding and an empathy for the people of other countries."

Although noting that there have been additions to the programme in recent years, such as the Hubert H. Humphrey scholarships — in honour of the former United States senator and vice president — Fulbright said he hoped for "much greater exchange between the United States and the countries of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, because of the differences today as evidenced by their attitudes and the arms race."

"I think this is the most effective way to deal with the psychological problems that support a thing like

the arms race, which I consider a great tragedy and threat to the future of our country and the world."

"There is a general recognition that this kind of activity holds within it the possibility to change attitudes which have in the past led to warfare. I remember after World War One, Lord Grey said that nations are always making mistakes because they do not understand each other's psychology."

The programme at 40

In August 1946, President Harry S. Truman signed into law the Fulbright Act, legislation which authorised an academic exchange programme for students, teachers, professors, and research scholars between the United States and other nations around the world.

Today, almost 40 years later, the Fulbright programme is found in 121 countries and has benefited more than 150,000 participants since it was started.

The Fulbright Programme rec-

eives support from the United States and 27 other countries that treatise the unique contribution it makes to building international friendship.

The Board of Foreign Scholarships (BFS), which oversees the Fulbright Programme, and the U.S. Information Agency (USIA), which administers it, are planning a special celebration for the 40th anniversary of the U.S. government's foremost educational exchange programme.

BFS is organising an exchange of eminent scholars and artists from the United States and abroad, 40 American and 40 foreign. The 40 Americans will travel to other countries to give Fulbright 40th Anniversary Lectures or master classes in various fields, and the 40 representatives from overseas will visit the United States on reciprocal missions.

The Binational Commissions, which direct the operations of the Fulbright Programme in the host countries, will commemorate the anniversary with lectures and conferences on American history,

democracy and education.

Other activities to mark the 40th anniversary of the programme include an international conference in Washington on the role of educational exchange in the last part of the 20th Century; a symposium at the Institute of International Affairs, Fulbright College, University of Arkansas; and an alumni meeting of American Fulbright participants to discuss the future of the exchange programme.

In the past five years, USIA has dramatically increased funding for the exchange programme. In the past two years, more than 5,000 people from the United States and 120 other countries have been selected to carry out scholarly and professional projects in the United States and abroad.

The people who run the exchange programme created "to preserve peace and prevent conflict" are confident that it can adapt to the changes of the future and proud of what it has accomplished in its first 40 years — U.S. Information Agency.

Electronic publishing: computers replacing books?

By Cynthia Marquand

WHEN California elementary school student Karie Rolander was assigned to do a report on Costa Rica in her sixth-grade class, her father gave her some assistance. Together they plugged a small compact disk into a unit attached to her home computer and quickly found the needed information. She submitted the report with the teacher's comment of "excellent research."

What made the research so successful was a single disk that contains the entire 21-volume set of Grolier's Academic American Encyclopedia.

By doing quick word searches on the computer, additional information not easily found in the bound-volume encyclopedia was

easily located.

Although other U.S. companies have looked into putting their encyclopedias on disks, so far Grolier's is the only one available to consumers.

"It's exactly the same little compact disk that's being sold in record stores. The difference is that you store computer information (on it) rather than storing music," says Gary Kiddall, president and founder of Adventure Corporation, the company that created and distributes the software for the electronic Encyclopedia.

Kiddall goes so far as to predict that this initial venture into electronic publishing — or books on disks — will one day revolutionise the entire book-publishing industry. In the future, he asserts,

portable computers will actually replace paper books, and consumers will be able to purchase old favourites like "Alice in Wonderland," on disk — replete with animated drawings of Alice jumping down the rabbit hole.

The book on a disk "is one of the most significant technologies to come along — as significant as the microprocessor," says Raymond Wanser, director of research at the Yankee Group, a high-tech Massachusetts research firm.

The primary advantage of the disk is that it holds a tremendous amount of information in a very small space at a very inexpensive price.

"There's a lot of interest from publishers," says Kiddall, adding that about 10 more disk titles will

be on store shelves in 1986.

Another advantage of having books on disks is the accessibility of information, he says. Information relating to a particular topic can be displayed instantly (on the computer screen), which makes the disk a valuable study aid for students. Law and medical fields are also expressing interest, because the disks allow quick and thorough searches through vast amounts of material. Consumer use for the technology, however, is much farther on down the road, Kiddall says.

The Dynabook, for example, is still in a conceptual stage. Originally conceived in early 1970 by Alan Kaye, the Dynabook is a thin, portable, computer-like device with a viewing panel. Much like a page in a book, the unit

could have hole punches to clip it into a notebook. Users plug credit-card sized disks into it, and can browse, underline, mark pages, and access information.

Kiddall predicts that a simple version of the Dynabook will be on store shelves within a few years, and that in 10 more years it will be the only efficient way of delivering information. Initial animation will be crude, he says, but as the technology develops, the animation could radically change the textbook industry.

"What better way is there to teach (youngsters) about what planetary motion is all about than to have the little objects all moving around when you want them to? Here it is right there in Dynabook. It's a great way," Kiddall says.

What about paperback books, newspapers, and magazines? Would they eventually become obsolete with an increase in electronic publishing?

"I believe that they will, and the reason is one of economics," Kiddall contends.

"It's so much cheaper to produce a little piece of plastic than it is to run big presses with giant rolls of paper, and of course, the cost of the product is lower."

Replacing newspapers with compact disks is quite a way off, he says, but the incentive for this shift does exist.

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Africa joins international fight against AIDS

By Osei Kofi
Reuters

NAIROBI — African governments have joined the worldwide battle against the deadly disease AIDS by starting to compile and provide information on its incidence in their countries.

Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe are among countries which have recently announced that AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) has been responsible for deaths, or that the virus had been isolated in donated blood.

The disease breaks down the body's resistance to infection, and most sufferers die within two to three years of developing the syndrome.

Although relatively few countries attended last October's World Health Organisation (WHO) workshop on AIDS in Bangkok, capital of the Central African Republic, awareness of the need to take action has grown since then, according to a Western medical researcher who was at the meeting.

The stigma attached to AIDS, which in developed countries is associated with homosexuality and promiscuity, had led most African states to shy away from open discussion, let alone sharing information with others.

"This is no longer the case. They are very worried and are seeking international expertise to help screen their populations," the researcher, who asked not to be named, said.

According to Western medical opinion, the AIDS virus originated on the African continent, and was latent in a species of tropical monkeys before humans contracted it through bites or eating the monkey's meat.

But the WHO has rejected Western media reports that the disease is rampant in Africa and this has helped win African cooperation in the international search for a cure.

"AIDS is not spreading like bushfire in Africa," WHO Director-General Dr. Halldan Mahler said. "Malaria and other tropical diseases are more rampant and destructive."

Last November, Kenya became the first African nation to acknowledge there had been cases of AIDS in the country.

Health Minister Peter Nyaikamo told parliament that 10 cases had been diagnosed, six Kenyans and four foreigners. Eight of the victims had died.

Nyaikamo released a hitherto secret report by a Belgian-Canadian medical team which found 54 per cent of prostitutes in Nairobi's slum areas to be carriers of the virus, meaning they had come in contact with it, but had not developed the disease and had antibodies to it.

One out of three of a sample of higher-class prostitutes working in a large tourist hotel also had the antibodies.

The number of confirmed

AIDS cases in the country had risen to 26 by last February, the government said.

Just before Christmas the tiny, landlocked Central African state of Rwanda disclosed it had diagnosed 319 AIDS cases in a population of just over four million, and that 106 of the victims had died.

Most startling about Rwanda's revelation was that nearly a quarter of the victims were children under 15.

In Europe and the United States, where most cases have been diagnosed, AIDS has affected mainly homosexuals, intravenous drug users and haemophiliacs who have received contaminated blood products.

Zaire, the most severely-hit African country according to published medical reports, has allowed a Belgian-Canadian AIDS research team to operate from the capital Kinshasa, but has threatened to expel it if it publicises its findings.

"On average 10 deaths occur (from AIDS) per day in Kinshasa's main hospital alone," a Nairobi-based Western doctor, who said he was "very conversant" with the situation there, told Reuters. He declined to be named.

Zaire is now exceptional among African countries in refusing to release information AIDS.

"We have nothing to hide," Kenya's director of medical services, Dr. Wilfrid Koinange, said recently.

Kenya's ministry of health now regularly briefs the press on AIDS and has organised workshops on teaching the public how to control the spread of the disease.

Neighbouring Uganda has launched a poster campaign to educate its citizens about AIDS, which Ugandans call "slim" because of the weight loss victims undergo.

Posters advise limiting the number of sexual partners, avoiding sex with high-risk partners and using sheaths. Spouses of high-risk partners are asked to refrain from donating blood.

Medical officials say AIDS has claimed hundreds of victims along Uganda's border with Zaire.

In Zimbabwe, where the government has officially announced four deaths from AIDS, the disease is turning many married men into model husbands.

Now they go directly home to their families after work. "I and my colleagues feel it is safer not to go to beer halls because that's where we get tempted (by women)," a factory worker told Reuters.

A witchdoctor in the capital Harare says he can cure AIDS. "I think if a victim can really explain to me how he feels, then I can possibly make a breakthrough," Mazhabata Muganhiwa said.

Told that AIDS possibly originated in Africa, she retorted: "Then that simplifies the whole problem."

'Business cards lubricate social relations'

By Kazukiyo Matsuba

TOKYO — In Japan, business cards are an ubiquitous lubricant of first encounters. More than any other nationality, it seems, when the Japanese meet for the first time, particularly on business occasions, they invariably go through a ritual of exchanging cards.

With sales of business cards steadily increasing by 6 per cent annually, Heiwado, a leading card maker, estimates that 10 million to 12 million cards are used daily in Japan. That works out to six million pairs of people meeting each other for the first time.

Most business cards, called "meishi" in Japanese, are supplied by companies to their employees and so conform to quite conservative colours and type sizes. But there are some new wrinkles on the business-card front.

Some companies are using meishi to draw attention to their own products. For example, the fibre-division staff of Du Pont, Japan, carry cards made of polyolefin spunbound Tyvek. Tyvek, manufactured by Du Pont, is a highly durable material used to make international mail envelopes and holders for floppy disks.

Or take Eiichiro Saito, board chairman of Nippon Steel and soon to be chairman of the Federation of Economic Organisations, a trade group of Japan's biggest businesses. Saito's cards are only 70 microns thick, demonstrating Nippon's advanced technique of rolling steel into extremely thin sheets.

Another trend, observed by Itoya, a stationer of long-standing in Tokyo's Ginza district, is the polarisation in the cards recently ordered at the shop. At one extreme are senior-level office workers who are paying out of their

own pockets for cards made of high-quality paper and with distinctive, yet conservative, patterns and type sizes.

At the other extreme are cards with bold layouts and fantastic characters achieved by photocomposition. Young people are seen distributing such cards at discos, and magazines have dubbed the practice the "PI BOOM."

"PI" stands for "personal identity."

Somewhere between the two poles is the card of Ikuro Nunoi, a marketing-services director in Tokyo. On one side of his card is his name, address and occupation in the ideographic characters that Japan adopted from the Chinese more than 1000 years ago.

On the other side is the same information in Japan's two phonetic alphabets and in English. Nunoi sees this as a "powerful weapon" to get Japanese culture understood by foreigners.

"When I deal with English-speaking persons, I produce my card at the outset and say, 'Your culture is based on a 26-letter alphabet, but our culture uses as many as 4,000 characters of diverse kinds like this.' This is a big surprise for them, and they apparently start to see us in a different light. Besides, when I happen to sit next to a foreigner on a jet, my card also serves as a catalyst for starting a friendly conversation."

According to Heiwado President Yoshihito Horiguchi, the ideographic characters may be at the root of the proliferation of meishi in Japan.

"When a person says his surname is 'Itoh,' for instance, you can think of various combinations of characters that are all pronounced 'Itoh.' In such a case, a card saves you the trouble of asking which characters are used," he believes.

— Asahi News Service.

Ethiopia in dilemma over children victims of famine

By Jerry Gray
The Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia — The future of thousands of children orphaned or displaced by Ethiopia's famine is the subject of heated debate here, pitting one government agency against another.

No one is sure how many children lost their parents or were separated from them in the famine. Estimates range as high as 200,000 and as low as 5,000.

But there is an even louder row over how child victims of famine should be cared for. One gov-

ernment agency wants them put in "reunification centres," for up to two years. Another says the idea is a waste of time and money.

Western diplomats and voluntary relief agencies are caught up in the issue. A major Western donor links the proposed centres to "reeducation camps." Most private aid agencies have declined to aid the plan.

The two government agencies at odds in the matter are the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, which coordinates Ethiopia's massive emergency relief effort, and the National Children's Commission, which oversees children

up to age 14.

An estimated 1 million Ethiopians, possibly half of them children, die in the African famine that saw its peak in 1985.

Thousands of youngsters were orphaned or were separated from relatives as masses of people moved from one relief camp to another. Other children went astray in the government effort to resettle people from the drought-plagued north to the more fertile south.

As late as last November, the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission's top official was telling donors that 200,000 Ethiopian

children had been orphaned or displaced because of the famine. In late February, a commission report said the number was at least 50,000.

About the same time, the Children's Commission began circulating its own family reunification programme. That report flew directly in the face of its sister agency's claims.

"Contrary to earlier estimates of the number of unaccompanied children resulting from the 1984-85 famine, phase one of the family reunification programme shows that only 11,381 unaccompanied children have been or are being

cared for in feeding centres," the report said.

Of the those children, 2,672 were placed in orphanages and 500 reunited with relatives, leaving 8,209 unaccounted for as of early March, the agency said.

"I expect the number to be about 5,000 in the final analysis," Tessa Worq Shimelis, deputy commissioner of the National Children's Commission, said in an interview with the Associated Press.

The Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) has yet to comment on the Children's Commission's report, which was com-

pleted by the UNICEF office in Addis Ababa with the help of the RRC and other government agencies and 17 volunteer agencies which offer children's services.

But based largely on its own estimates of at least 50,000 displaced children, the RRC has proposed building up to five so-called "children's reunification interim reception centres," at a cost of \$1.2 million each.

The idea has been roundly criticised in private by Western diplomats and voluntary relief agencies. The Children's Commission's criticisms are public.

Zapata keeps WBC flyweight title

NIRASAKI, Japan (AP) — Hilario Zapata of Panama knocked down challenger Shunichi Hozumi of Japan in the 13th round and went on to a unanimous 15-round decision victory Monday night, retaining his World Boxing Association (WBA) flyweight title.

Zapata floored Hozumi in the 13th with a left counter punch before 5,000 spectators at Nirasaki, 120 kilometres west of Tokyo.

The 27-year-old champion was aggressive from the start, unleashing a series of body blows.

The two fought almost evenly through the third round, although Zapata threw more punches than the 26-year-old Hozumi.

Hozumi tried to hit Zapata at close range but the champion dodged. Zapata also evaded the challenger's blows with swift dodging and footwork when Hozumi

frequently forced him to the ropes.

In the 11th, Hozumi suffered a cut to his right eyebrow, bleeding slightly, and then lost his balance when Zapata threw a right hook.

Hozumi's best rounds were the 14th and 15th, when he desperately landed a series of punches, but it was not enough to hurt the champion.

Judge Fernando Fernandez of Puerto Rico scored it 145-140, Judge Gordon Volkman of the United States 146-140 and Judge Julio Roldan of Venezuela 147-140, all in favour of Zapata, under

a 10-point per round scoring system.

Referee Enzo Montero of Venezuela did not keep score.

This was Zapata's second defence of his title he won from Alonso Gonzalez of the United States last October. He defeated Mexican Javier Lucas in a unanimous decision in Panama City in January.

Before becoming the WBA flyweight champion, Zapata was the World Boxing Council (WBC) junior flyweight champion. He defended that title 10 times before losing it to current WBC champion Chang Juang-Koo of South Korea.

The Panamanian champion now has a record of 32 victories, 11 of them by knockout, and five defeats. Hozumi, who was the WBA's no. 7 flyweight contender,

has won 28 bouts, eight by knockout, and lost four.

It was Hozumi's second crack at the world title. He lost to WBA flyweight champion Santos Laciari of Argentina by a second round knockout in May 1983.

Zapata weighed in at 50.8 kilograms and Hozumi also at 50.7 kilograms.

After the bout, Zapata said, "he is a good challenger but needs more experience to become my rival. At present, he is no match for me. His punches are not so strong."

Hozumi said, "Zapata was superior in every aspect. His right jab was pretty strong so I could not unleash my favourite left."

Zapata's manager, Luis Spada, said, "it was the difference of technique. My boy did not allow the challenger to land a clean hit."

Curran collects top prize of Atlanta championships

ATLANTA (R) — Kevin Curran won his first singles title in more than a year Sunday by beating fellow-American Tim Wilkison 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-2) in the finals of the \$279,000 World Championship Tennis (WCT) Atlanta championships.

Curran, seeded fourth, served just eight aces but kept Wilkison guessing on every serve in the 113-minute match.

"I'd hate to face my serve when I'm serving like that," said Curran, 28, the 1985 Wimbledon runner-up who won \$44,000 for Sunday's victory. "I'm gifted with that, it comes naturally."

Wilkison said that even if he guessed right, he often could not return the serve.

"Obviously, if I guessed wrong," said Wilkison, a 26-year-old left-hander, "it was an ace by about 10 yards."

Curran, ranked 12th in the world, probably will move back into the top 10 with his win, while Wilkison, ranked 46th, will rise to about no. 35.

Curran took an early break in the first set, then held for a 3-1 advantage. Wilkison broke back with a strong return. Curran saved three break points in the 12th game to force the tiebreaker and then played steady tennis to win.

Wilkison broke Curran immediately in the second set, but Curran broke right back and they each held serve the remainder of the set.

Curran's groundstrokes were too powerful for the scrappy Wilkison in the second set tiebreaker.

"I felt like I played better than I played against Boris Becker," said Wilkison, who upset second seeded Becker in the first round, "but I'm not really sure. I can't remember that far back."

Curran vividly remembers the last time he won a tournament in Toronto in March, 1985.

"It's been a drought," said Curran, who will be an alternate for the WCT finals in Dallas this week. "One of my goals this year was to be in all the majors, have a top 10 ranking and win a super series tournament. It's good to get one of them out of the way at the beginning of the year."

After Dallas, Curran will play some clay court tournaments, but he will skip the French Open, which he said he would play in

1987.

In doubles, Andy Kohlberg and Robert Van't Hof, both of the United States, beat the South African team of Christo Steyn and Danie Visser 6-2, 6-3 in 52 minutes.

WCT finals robbed of three top attractions

Meanwhile, injury, suspension and impending fatherhood have robbed the WCT finals of three of the game's top attractions, but the big guns from northern Europe have come to the organisers' rescue.

Ivan Lendl, John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors will be missing from the line-up for this year's event which begins Tuesday night.

French Open champion Mats Wilander has been named top seed in Lendl's absence. Two other Swedes, Australian Open title-holder Stefan Edberg and Joakim Nystrom, are seeded to reach the semifinals along with Wimbledon champion Boris Becker of West Germany.

Becker and Edberg are favourites to reach the final because they have the powerful serve-and-volley games perfectly suited to the indoor supreme court surface.

Lendl withdrew last week to rest his right knee which has been hit by tendinitis. The Czechoslovak, a two-times winner here, is expected to be sidelined for up to three weeks.

McEnroe, who withdrew from the circuit in January, is not expected to return before May's French Open after his fiancée, actress Tatum O'Neal, has given birth to his child.

Fellow-American Connors is out of top-line tennis until Wimbledon after accepting a 10-week suspension and \$20,000 fine imposed last week by the governing body of men's tennis.

The rest of the field is made up of Frenchmen Yannick Noah and Thierry Tulasne, Sweden's Anders Jarryd, Czechoslovakia's Miloslav Mecir and Americans Johan Kriek, Brad Gilbert, Matt Anger and Paul Annacone.

Becker, making his first appearance in the tournament, will play his first match against the winner of the first-round game between Mecir and Annacone.

Lyle wins Greensboro Open

GREENSBORO, North Carolina (R) — Britain's Sandy Lyle held off a final-round charge by American Andy Bean Sunday to win the Greensboro Open golf tournament with a two-under-par final round 70 for his first U.S. tour victory.

Lyle, the British Open champion who tied the course record Saturday with a 64, finished with a 13-under-par total of 275 to win the first prize of \$90,000.

The tall, burly Scot went into the final round three shots ahead of the field and withstood the charge by Bean, who finished at 11 under par after a closing 67.

"It's my first win over here and I hope there'll be more to come," said Lyle, who had won 17 events outside the United States.

Accepting the check, he remarked: "It's a very sweet sound — \$90,000."

Lyle was playing in the greater Greensboro Open as his final tune-up event for the U.S. Masters, the first major tournament of the season, which begins on Thursday at Augusta, Georgia.

"I had Andy Bean breathing

down my neck, but I had it going very well today," Lyle said. "I don't think that winning will change my American schedule any, but it does relieve me of one of my mental problems — winning on the American tour. I've won everywhere else and wondered why I hadn't won here."

"If I can sober up by next Thursday, I think I'll feel very good about Augusta," he added.

Lyle clinched the victory with a 12-foot birdie putt on the final hole, but established himself earlier in the day as the man to beat when he birdied the ninth and 10th holes to take a three-shot lead.

Isao Aoki of Japan shot a final-round 66 to vault into a tie for third place along with American Leonard Thompson, while American David Frost finished in a tie for sixth with five other players after a final round score of 72 left him at seven-under-par 281.

Aoki's 66 was highlighted by a run of four consecutive birdies in the middle of his round which briefly put him into contention.

Bradley cherishes first victory

RANCHO MIRAGE, California (R) — American Pat Bradley, taking advantage of compatriot Val Skinner's two-shot penalty for hitting out of bounds on the first tee, shot a one-under-par 71 Sunday to capture the Dina Shore Open golf tournament.

Bradley, who won \$75,000 for her efforts, finished with a 280 total over four rounds of the Ladies Professional Golf Association's richest tournament.

Skinner made a game effort to come back from her penalty with birdies on four of the five final holes for a 69, but fell short.

Mary Beth Zimmerman, of the United States, shot a 70 and finished with a 282 total over the rainswept 6,275-yard Mission Hills country club course.

Bradley, 35, acknowledged that she especially cherished victory because she is known for finishing among the leaders but not for winning.

"People don't care about sec-

onds, or thirds, or consistency — people only care about winners. I don't think people realise how difficult it is to be in the hunt and make those top 10 finishes week in and week out," Bradley said.

Bradley has won 17 times and finished second 40 times in 349 events in a little more than 12 years on the tour.

Skinner, 24, earned \$40,000 for second place and said she felt she "accomplished a lot by hanging in there at the end the way I did."

Skinner joked about her wayward opening shot. "First I took a practice swing and my bracelet fell off. I was so nervous it felt like my legs were glued together."

American Juli Inkster, who beat Bradley in a playoff here two years ago, was never a threat in this year's final. Opening the day in second place, three strokes back, she struggled to stay close but faded over the closing holes to a 76 and a fifth-place tie.

S.Koreans, Soviets proceed to King's Cup boxing finals

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — South Korea Sunday qualified three of its four fighters for the finals of the 12th King's Cup Amateur Boxing Championships at the National Gymnasium in Bangkok. The Soviet Union qualified all eight of its boxers.

Light flyweight Oh Yoon-Soo had the toughest task of the three South Korean finalists, as he narrowly edged his Thai rival, Pajon Mulson, who was cheered on by a partisan crowd of some 2,000 spectators.

Using a high guard and punishing hooks to the face and body, the Korean was in control, although he had to ward off a determined bid by the Thai in the final round to stage a comeback. The judges voted the Korean a 3-2 winner.

Both in the bantamweight and featherweight, South Korean winners Park Tae-Lim and Joo Yoon-Sang had no difficulty putting away their Kenyan opponents Samuel Mwangi and Michael Mutua, winning comfortably on 4-1 and 5-0 decisions respectively.

The expected tussle between Kenya and the Soviet Union, expected to be the top contenders for the team title, evaporated as the former suffered two early reverses at the hands of the Koreans. Their defeat left the Russians, for whom featherweight Albert Kazanjan was an impressive 5-0 victor, virtually in the driving seat.

While the Russians have eight boxers in the finals, Uganda has four, South Korea three, Kenya two, and Thailand three from three different teams. Australia, Bulgaria, India and Pakistan have one each.

Jordan to host international cycling competition this month

AMMAN (Petra) — An international cycling competition will be held in Jordan on April 28 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein, honorary chairman of a higher committee organising the race.

The competition organised by the Arab and international cycling federations in cooperation

with the local Tarf Sports Club requires the competitors to cover distances no less than 100 kilometres, according to Tarf Club's Secretary Jihad Sakr.

He told a press conference that competitors from Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom will take part in the race, the first of its type to be held in Asia.

European Boxing Union schedules heavyweight fight

OSLO, Norway (AP) — Norwegian news media reported Saturday from Rome that the European Boxing Union (EBU) has scheduled a European heavyweight championship title fight between Andre Van Den Outelaar of The Netherlands and former title holder Steffen Tangstad of Norway.

The fight will reportedly take place at Randers in Denmark April 18.

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TENDER'S NOTICE

The Directorate of projects/Ministry of Education announce the issuing of the following tenders which are part of the fifth Educational projects No. 2246-J0

Sponsored by the World Bank.

Tender No.	Title	Fees J.D
35/86	General Furniture	15,000
36/86	Sport Equipment	10,000
37/86	Chemistry Equipment	10,000
38/86	Labs. Chemicals	5,000
39/86	Physics Lab.	10,000
40/86	Biology Lab.	10,000
41/86	Lab. Furniture	15,000
42/86	Business Equipment	10,000
43/86	Electrical W/shop	10,000
44/86	Woodworking W/shop	5,000
45/86	Agricultural Lab.	5,000
46/86	Farm Machinery W/shop	5,000
47/86	General vocational W/shop	5,000
48/86	Metal W/Shop	5,000
49/86	Art & Craft (General)	10,000
50/86	Weaving	10,000
51/86	Ceramics	10,000
52/86	Hairdressing & Beauty Salon	15,000
53/86	Sewing W/Shop	15,000
54/86	Home Economics	10,000
55/86	Nursing Lab.	10,000
56/86	Audio Visual Aids	10,000
57/86	Kitchen & Restaurant	10,000
58/86	Laundry	10,000

Interested bidders are invited to collect tenders documents from procurement division at the Directorate of projects/Ministry of Education starting April 5, 1986 and until April 18, 1986 against the payment of the above fees.

Closing date will be 10.00 a.m. of June 28, 1986.

Director of projects.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE WATER AUTHORITY OF JORDAN CONTRACTS

35/86/DZW, 36/86/GSW, 37/86/GAW

38/86/GMW, 39/86/GNW

1- Water Authority of Jordan invites experienced contractors from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland, Taiwan and contractors in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan who have been prequalified in the Ministry of Public Works as General, First and Second Class Water and Sewerage upper divisions to submit bids for the construction of;

1-1 17 km of water mains between Duhail and Zatar 24" in diameter for contract 35/86/DZW.

1-2 The general water contract consisting of mains, secondaries and house connections for contract 36/86/GSW "Southern areas".

1-3 The general water contract consisting of mains, secondaries and house connections for contract 37/86/GAW "Amman areas".

1-4 The general water contract consisting of mains, secondaries and house connections for contract 38/86/GMW "Middle areas".

1-5 The general water contract consisting of mains, secondaries and house connections for contract 39/86/GNW "Northern areas".

2- A prebid conference will be held on Monday April 14th, 1986 at 0900 at the Water Authority's main office in Amman.

3- On April 14th, 1986 foreign contractors shall submit in a sealed envelope, in person or by mail, information about the firm for prequalification. The information will be evaluated and contractors will be informed whether or not to submit bids.

4- The bids are due not later than 1200 Jordan local time on Saturday, May 10th, 1986 at the Tender Department of the Water Authority, Jabal Al-Hussein, Amman. The cost of each copy of the Tender documents is JD 75 non-refundable.

Eng. M.S. Kilani
President
Water Authority

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Cinema
RAGHADAN
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ZANJEER
(Colour)

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Weinberger assures Aquino of U.S. economic aid to Philippines

MANILA (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, ignoring anti-American protests, assured President Corason Aquino Monday the Reagan administration would assist her government with economic aid.

Mr. Weinberger, the first senior U.S. official to visit the Philippines since Mrs. Aquino was ousted, told her there was goodwill for her government in the U.S. Congress, presidential spokesman Rebe Sapient said.

"I think there will be a strong infusion of economic aid and it is necessary to have some military assistance," he told reporters after Mr. Weinberger's 30-minute meeting with Mrs. Aquino.

Mr. Weinberger was dogged by demonstrators after arriving in Manila Sunday night. Picard-acting students urged him to "go home" and demanded an end to what they said was U.S. intervention in the Philippines.

Protesters following him staged demonstrations at Manila airport, the presidential palace, the Defence Ministry and the U.S. embassy. One group was led by supporters of Mrs. Aquino.

Mr. Weinberger, who was accompanied by Assistant Defence Secretary Richard Armitage, told reporters before leaving for Bangkok: "There has been a dramatic turn of events here. We have seen a lot of history made."

Mr. Saguisag said Mr. Weinberger did not discuss the U.S. bases in the Philippines with Mrs. Aquino, who has said she will respect the bases agreement until 1991 when it expires and then "keep her options open."

Clark Air Base and Subic Bay

Naval Base, the largest U.S. military installations overseas, have been the target of protesters by students and left-wing groups who see them as instruments of U.S. intervention.

Mr. Saguisag said Mr. Weinberger gave Mrs. Aquino a brief letter from President Reagan and told her U.S. aid would conform to her priorities.

The bases, seen as crucial to U.S. interests and security of the Asia-Pacific region, were hardly mentioned, he said.

The Aquino government is inching towards peace talks with Communist rebels who have been fighting a guerrilla war against the government for 17 years, but the insurgents have made removal of the bases a key demand in reaching terms on a ceasefire.

Mr. Weinberger said U.S. assistance would be mainly economic but added that Washington was concerned by the insurgency.

"I think it is a serious problem but I think effective steps are

being taken to deal with it," he said. "If there is not a stable situation in the government then economic aid can be of very little use."

Mr. Weinberger told a U.S. television network before meeting Mrs. Aquino that he would not discuss the bases with her.

"The issue is settled. She said many times that she wants the bases to stay and we'll discuss them in 1991," he added. The text of the interview was released by the U.S. embassy.

Asked to comment on ousted leader Ferdinand Marcos' remarks in a radio interview last week, Mr. Weinberger said:

"I think the Filipino people and the Philippines government recognize that his term is completed now, in one way or another, and I don't think he will be a large factor in the future of this government."

Secretary of State George Shultz will hold talks with Mrs. Aquino next month.



David Lange

Chirac rejects Lange's request to visit Paris

WELLINGTON (R) — France's newly-elected right-wing government has turned down a proposal by Prime Minister David Lange that he visit Paris, Mr. Lange said Monday.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has rejected the suggestion of talks, saying Paris would consider no ministerial-level contacts until Wellington freed two French secret agents from jail, Mr. Lange told reporters.

The New Zealand leader has said several times he would be prepared to meet Mr. Chirac at short notice in an effort to patch up the simmering row over the sinking of nuclear protest ship Rainbow Warrior.

Ties have been near breaking point since France admitted official involvement in last July's Auckland mining of the Rainbow Warrior, flagship of the Greenpeace environmental movement.

The response was that there would be no meeting at any ministerial level... until the two agents are released," Mr. Lange said.

Two officers of France's secret service, Alain Mafart and Dominique Prieur, were jailed for 10 years for their roles in the bombing, in which one of the protest ship's crew drowned.

The two are eligible for parole after five years. Mr. Lange has said repeatedly they would be repatriated early only if Paris guaranteed that they would be jailed in France.

The former Paris government, ousted in elections last month, ordered the bombing to stop the Rainbow Warrior protesting against France's South Pacific nuclear testing programme.

New Zealand officials have consistently characterised the Rainbow Warrior sinking as state-backed terrorism.

Mr. Lange said Mr. Chirac's attitude and a French threat to veto trade access to the European Community (EC) both seemed to take the view that New Zealand was a prostitute client state.

Last Friday, Foreign Trade Minister Michel Noir said the government was considering trade sanctions against New Zealand, including a request to the EC to ban butter imports.

The believer knows he can count on (facing) this huge challenge, on the help that comes to him from on high. It is therefore urgent that a collective appeal should be sent insistently from earth to heaven," the Pontiff said.

He called for prayers around the world to prepare for the meeting in the city of St. Francis, Patron Saint of Italy.

2 senators quit over West Berlin scandals

WEST BERLIN (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU), already rocked by corruption scandals, suffered new shocks Monday when two ministers quit the West Berlin government over a separate bribes affair.

Interior Senator (Minister) Heinrich Lummer and Building Construction Senator Klaus Franke resigned after weeks of pressure from the Social Democratic (SPD) opposition and from within their own party. Both deny impropriety.

The widening scandal has so far resulted in corruption charges against eight people here. They include a former CDU building official accused of taking up to a million marks (\$400,000) in bribes for planning favours.

A further 29 people, including an architect, businessman, former officials and a brothel owner, are in investigative custody.

The resignation of Mr. Lummer, a leading figure in the CDU-led government since it took office in 1981, pledged to abolish corruption, was a blow to Mayor Eberhard Diepgen and to Mr. Kohl's party in Bonn.

With 10 months to go before national elections, the CDU in West Germany is already suffering from a scandal over unofficial donations to party funds.

Mr. Kohl faces charges that he misled an official committee investigation into corruption charges.

Mr. Diepgen has admitted taking thousands of marks from building contractor Kurt Franke, already charged with bribery. He says he accepted the money as a party donation before he took office.

Last week Mr. Lummer, renowned for his hardline attitudes on immigration and security, admitted he paid 2,000 marks (\$750) to an extreme right-wing group to stop them campaigning against the CDU in an election.

He said the action had been endorsed by the party.

Mr. Lummer, 53, had also become a political liability because of his acquaintance with a car dealer now being investigated on charges of attempted bribery over a property deal.

Mr. Franke's position had been undermined by a magazine report that said investigators had found 800,000 marks (\$320,000) of "unexplained origin" in his private bank accounts. He denied the money had been paid to him as bribes.

The CDU's coalition partners, the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP), have made it clear they do not intend to leave the government over the scandal.

Seoul opposition seeks dismissal of 4 ministers

SEOUL (R) — The South Korean opposition demanded in parliament Monday that four cabinet ministers be sacked for trying to suppress a campaign for election reforms.

Officials of the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) and the Korea National Party (KNP) said their joint motion sought the dismissal of Interior Minister Chung Suk-Mo, Justice Minister Kim Seung-Kyo, Education Minister Sohn Jae-Sook and Information Minister Lee Won-Hong.

The opposition accused the Interior Minister of violently cracking down on the campaign, detaining politicians and blockading the opposition headquarters. The other ministers were accused of helping him.

The opposition move is expected to be defeated by the ruling Democratic Justice Party, which dominates parliament.

More than 100 members of parliament and other politicians were questioned by police in February in connection with the campaign to collect 10 million signatures to press President Chun Doo Hwan to hold direct presidential elections next year.

The government initially called the campaign illegal, threatening to jail campaigners for up to seven years, but later eased its stance after Mr. Chun told opposition leaders he would help prevent any "over-reaction" by police in future.

Police fired tear gas and anti-riot "pepper fog" to stop more than 1,500 anti-government protesters, mostly students, from taking over Taegon City Hall on Saturday after nearly 10,000 attended a major opposition rally in the south eastern city.

Police said most of the fires were started by cigarettes and cooking stoves left by mountain climbers on the traditional holiday on which South Koreans visit their ancestors' graves.

Strong winds hampered thousands of policemen and civil defence workers as they battled flames for seven hours.

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Red Cross visits Kabul

ISLAMABAD (R) — An International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delegate is in Kabul to study ways of helping political prisoners and war wounded, West European diplomats said Monday.

It was the first ICRC visit to Kabul for four years. The diplomats said the visit was exploratory and it was not clear whether the ICRC would open a mission in the Afghan capital.

A Red Cross team stayed for two months in 1982. It saw 338 prisoners and three hospitals before leaving because Afghan officials refused to allow it to work unhindered.

There is no official estimate of people jailed in Afghanistan over the past six years. A U.N. human rights report last year estimated that up to 50,000 people had been arrested since Soviet military intervention in December 1979.

The Peshawar-based National Committee for Human Rights in Afghanistan estimated that 500 people were summarily executed and more than 6,500 arrested in 1985 alone.

The diplomats said the Geneva-based ICRC, whose promise of strict confidentiality often wins it access to prisons outside countries can never see, had been seeking readmission to Kabul since 1982.

They noted the latest visit came as the Kabul government appeared to be trying to improve its image by showing new flexibility in United Nations-sponsored peace talks and inviting more Western journalists to visit the capital.

UN reports have accused the

rebels of human rights abuses, including the killing of prisoners and the use of child soldiers.

A new mission would also seek to work with the Afghan Red Crescent to improve health standards at Kabul hospitals and possibly even send medical teams to the battlefield.

Protestants hit Belfast with new wave of violence

BELFAST (R) — Northern Ireland (ANI) — A gunman fired on a police car Sunday night and Protestant gunmen fired on a police car Sunday night and Protestant gunmen fired on a police car Sunday night.

Amid some fears about the morale of the 85 per cent Protestant Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC), the British government described the violence as the unprecedented Protestant campaign against a force which battles Catholic guerrillas.

Police said they were hit by a sniper hiding in Belfast's Protestant Crumlin Road district.

Six Belfast police officers' homes were attacked in sporadic assaults which began late Sunday night and lasted through the early hours, he said.

Only one house was badly damaged — by a gasoline bomb hurled through a front window. Two cars were set ablaze in an early hours street disturbance, Davidson said.

A total of 109 policemen's homes or families have been attacked in the past week, including two houses burned down late Saturday.

Since 1969, 226 police officers have been slain in the sectarian violence, almost all in attacks by the mainly Catholic Irish Republican Army (IRA) and its Marxist offshoot, the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA).

The United Ulster Defence

Association, which is not outlawed, said Sunday the computer tapes seized by police were innocuous, adding, "we want them back."

No injuries were reported in the latest attacks. The violence is sparked by Protestant outrage at the Nov. 15 Anglo-Irish accord which gives the Catholic Republic of Ireland a consultative say in Britain's administration of this Protestant-dominated province.

Police spokesman Sgt. Cyril Davidson said the armed land never was hit several times by a sniper hiding in Belfast's Protestant Crumlin Road district.

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The United Ulster Defence

Robber kills N. Zealand policeman during chase

WELLINGTON (R) — A man with a shotgun killed a police constable Monday night in a chase involving Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew after holding up a store, crashing a car seized from two men and fleeing in a hijacked police car, police said.

Another policeman was wounded in the incident, which New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange said was not linked to Mr. Lee's visit.

The gunman robbed a store in the shopping centre, hijacked a car from two elderly women but crashed it and a woman leered a felony.

He was stopped by a police road block near the exclusive Moscovite Hotel in Lake Rotomah, where Mr. Lee was staying, and shot and

wounded policeman Tuti Katene. He then forced policeman Robin Dudding to drive him away in a patrol car. About five kilometres from the lodge gates the gunman apparently shot Dudding then opened fire on chasing police.

District Police Commander Ian Bird said police returned fire, hitting the man.

"He failed to heed calls to drop the weapon. He advanced and ignored further requests, plus three warning shots," Bird said.

The Singapore leader later went ahead with a planned visit to a forestry research station in the area. He is due to leave New Zealand Tuesday after a four-day semi-private visit.

Contadora ministers seek delay in U.S. aid vote

PANAMA CITY (R) — Contadora countries seeking a peaceful settlement in Central America want the U.S. Congress to delay voting on a Reagan request for \$100 million in aid for Nicaraguan rebels, U.S. congressmen said.

The three opposition Democratic Party congressmen have talks Sunday with the foreign ministers of Contadora countries meeting in Panama City to hammer out a peace treaty for Central America.

Congressman Bill Richardson of New Mexico told reporters afterwards the ministers wanted Congress to delay the vote to give the Contadora treaty a chance to work. "It may be the last opportunity for peace," he said.

The House of Representatives is due to vote on President Reagan's aid request again later this month after rejecting it last month. The Senate has passed a revised version.

Michael Barnes, chairman of a congressional sub-committee, said: "I think Congress should accept their strong request that we not vote immediately... and that we give them more time to see whether they can be successful in their initiative."

The Contadora Group diplomats believed aid for the so-called contra rebels in Nicaragua, or any other irregular forces in the region, made it more difficult for the group to achieve peace, Mr. Barnes said.

"We all feel very strongly that this is a critical meeting, this is an important step towards peace... progress is being made and we feel very strongly that differences are being narrowed," Mr. Richardson said.

"The Contadora process is viable, it's strong, it's dynamic, and it's getting the full support of the governments of Latin America. And I think we should get behind it in the United States," Mr. Richardson said.

He added that Contadora countries opposed any foreign military involvement in Central America, including that of Cuba.

The Contadora countries — Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia — are meeting with the so-called Contadora support group of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Peru and the five Central American nations.

Conference sources said the Contadora foreign ministers were drafting a communique in which they would set a deadline, perhaps as early as May 31, for the signing of their proposed Central American peace treaty.

On Sunday night the outcome of the talks was still unclear although some ministers had expressed optimism that a date would be agreed for the signing.

The peace talks, which began early on Saturday, had been scheduled to conclude by Sunday afternoon. But Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadía announced at about 1:30 a.m. that the talks would continue.

Salvadoran Foreign Minister Rodolfo Castillo Claramount charged that agreement on the communique and its timetable for signing a peace pact was being held up by Nicaragua, but Mr. Abadía declined comment and Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi denied the allegation.

"We can't talk about obstacles because none of the (Central American) governments have announced their positions yet," Mr. Consalvi said.

The Pope said the purpose of the unprecedented gathering of senior representatives of world religions would be "to beg the omnipotent, whose hands hold the destiny of the world, for the great gift of peace."

Speaking in his weekly angelus blessing to crowds in St. Peter's Square Sunday, the Pope said the date for the day of prayer, which he first proposed in January, had been decided after consultations

Pope invites all religions to pray in Assisi

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul has invited representatives of all the world's religions to pray for peace together in the Italian city of Assisi on Oct. 27.

Speaking in his weekly angelus blessing to crowds in St. Peter's Square Sunday, the Pope said the date for the day of prayer, which he first proposed in January, had been decided after consultations

with Roman Catholic bishops and representatives of other faiths.

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Police recapture Sobhraj at Goa party

BOMBAY (R) — Police posing as waiters recaptured Charles Sobhraj, one of Asia's most wanted criminals, in a Goa restaurant as he tried to telephone Beirut during a riotous wedding party, residents said Monday.

Sobhraj was seized at the "O Coqueiro" (the coconut tree) restaurant in Porvorim Sunday night with 28-year-old Briton David Richard Hall, who is suspected of master-minding his escape from a New Delhi prison on March 16.

Sobhraj, 42, who is wanted in at least seven countries for a string of robberies and murders — most of them involving Western tourists — had strolled to freedom after accomplices drugged his guards with spiked sweets.

The seafood restaurant, an old Portuguese villa set back from the road about 10 kilometres from the Goa capital Panaji, was crowded with dozens of guests from a wedding party when police moved in.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said chaos broke out when officers disguised as waiters in sarongs grabbed the pair just before midnight after serving them drinks for an hour.

Rajesh Singh, a reporter on Goa's Herald newspaper, told Reuters restaurant employees said the fugitive pair were trying to telephone someone in Beirut. It was not known who they were trying to call.

He also faced possible extradition to Thailand, where authorities have long sought him in connection with the killing of a Dutch couple in 1976 and drug-related offences.

At least seven jail officials were suspended and arrested after the break-out. Police said it was 45

minutes before one of the drugged guards awoke and raised the alarm.

Two other escapees are already back behind bars. One surrendered the following day and the other was seized at the home of a relative several days later.

They gave lurid details of Sobhraj's luxurious life in jail. His influence with guards obtained colour television in his cell, luxury women, and regular interviews with a woman journalist preparing a book on his life.

Already the subject of two popular biographies, he is an almost legendary figure in Asia.

Accounts of his exploits said the athletic-looking five foot seven inch (1.7 metre) Sobhraj sometimes posed as an international gem dealer to drug, rob and murder his victims.

Born in Saigon of an Indian father and a French-Vietnamese mother, he was arrested in New Delhi in 1971 and charged with holding up a hotel jewellery shop. He jumped bail but not before police had taken his fingerprints.

GOREN BRIDGE

CHARLES GOREN
AND OSCAR REUBEN
The Goren Bridge System, Inc.

HELD UP BY HOLD-UP

Since spades probably were 5-2 and there were only eight last tricks and no entry to the table, it was obvious that a hold-up play in spades was going to be essential to make the contract. If South does not hold up, he will be defeated regardless of which defender holds the king of clubs.

If declarer holds up the ace of spades twice, he can be defeated with good defense. West must overtake his partner's spade return and clear the suit. Then he can cash his winners when he gets in with the king of clubs. Of course, this plan would succeed if East has the king of clubs.

The double holdup in spades is not essential — if East has a third spade, declarer can lose no more than three spades and a club. What declarer must consider, however, is how to assure the contract if West has five spades and the king of clubs.

Correct technique is to win the second spade with the ace, cash the ace of hearts and four rounds of diamonds to exhaust the defenders' cards in that suit, and then throw West in with a spade. He can take his spade tricks, but then he must either put dummy on lead with a heart or else lead a club into declarer's tenace to give him his ninth trick.

After the main play technique, the holdup is one of the most important. But it can prove disastrous. Consider this hand and decide whether South, declarer at table, or Trumps, should hold up the ace of spades, one round, two rounds or not at all.

After the fact that his ace of spades is a singleton and that, if he does not hold up, he will be defeated, caused South to be overconfident. He led a club into declarer's tenace but then three no-trump bids proved to be a trap, for the nine tricks were not

COLUMN

Saudis top prize list in Koran competition

TEHRAN (R) — Saudi Arabians topped the prize list in the fourth Tehran Koran Competition, a test of memorisation and recitation of the holy book by competitors from 23 countries. Newspapers said three Saudi Arabians won 23 "Spring of Freedom" gold coins, including the prestigious top prize of 14 coins for best memorisation of the whole of the Koran, won by Yahya Ali Al Haffaf. Iran came second overall with 16 gold coins. Ayatollah Abul Qasem Khazali, a member of Iran's 12-man Council of Guardians, came second after Al Haffaf in the test on the whole Koran. The testing is complicated and competitors are required to recite or recognise specified verses at random from the Koran's 114 chapters, the longest of which has 286 verses. Lebanon's Tawfiq Rafiq Marwash came third in the test on the whole Koran, giving Lebanon third place with 10 gold coins.

Man still pays maintenance after wife changes her sex

WEST BERLIN (R) — A divorced man must still pay his ex-wife maintenance even if she has a sex change. A Munich court recently refused to accept a man's appeal that he ought no longer to be liable for his former wife's maintenance "because she was on the way to becoming a man." They were married in 1977 and divorced two years later, with the husband agreeing to pay maintenance. Later the woman, who since her youth had been very masculine and identified with the opposite sex, had hormone treatment and her breasts removed. In 1984 a court gave approval for her to take a man's name. This was too much for her former husband and he went to court about the maintenance. An upper court has now thrown out his appeal against a lower court decision. The judge ruled that the woman had not dealt "unfairly" with her former husband and the sex change she was undergoing was not illegal.

Radio monitoring cars foil exam cheating

TOKYO (R) — Special cars able to monitor radio transmissions were called out to foil any cheating by students sitting national medical exams. The Health Ministry said the move followed rumours of plans to transmit exam answers to the students. More than 9,000 students were taking the two-day exams in Tokyo and other centres but no incidents were reported.

Moscow expected to join Interpol

GLASGOW, Scotland (R) — The Soviet Union is expected to join Interpol to combat soaring drug trafficking in the East Bloc, the world police network has said. Interpol Secretary-General Raymond Kendall told a Glasgow conference of forensic scientists he believed the Soviets would become members next year. The Soviet Union is the only major world power which does not belong to the 138-nation organisation. "A number of Eastern Bloc countries, including Soviet Union, are beginning to realise that it is impossible to remain aloof from the problem of international crime," Mr. Kendall said.

Iran, U.S. clash over food parcels

TEHRAN (R) — Homesick Iranians in the United States are having to learn to live without native pistachio nuts, melon seeds and barberries because of a postal dispute. Iran's post office says it has stopped accepting food parcels for America because the U.S. Mail Service has returned 3,000 in the past five months. Such packages have been a popular form of gift from relatives among some million Iranian expatriates there. Tehran Radio quoted the director of the Tehran Mail as saying he had appealed to the International Postal Union for compensation for parcels which were insured. The director said the U.S. Mail Service had explained that the Department of Agriculture forbids import of foodstuffs. It was not clear why such parcels had apparently been accepted by the United States until recently. The United States and Iran have no diplomatic relations and mail is routed via third countries.